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DeafLife

REPRINT FEATURE

The Washington Post cover story on cochlear implants:

telling the truth—or twisting it?

Close-up view of a cochlear-implant wearer

VOLUME X, NUMBER 2 AUGUST 1997

COVER

DESIGN BY MATTHEW S. MOORE
PHOTO BY ROBERT A. REEDER/*WASHINGTON POST*

ON MAY 11, *THE WASHINGTON POST* carried a cover story by Feature Writer Marie Arana-Ward on the cochlear-implant controversy as it affects deaf people: "As Technology Advances, A Bitter Debate Divides the Deaf." Like other articles by hearing reporters, it attempted to present a balanced view. But did it? Arana-Ward made no mention of several important issues stressed by the prominent advocates she interviewed. They criticize her report for its omissions and outright misstatements (and some deliberate or at least unchecked misquotations) that give it a definite pro-implant bias. The reprint is followed by three letters to the **Post** (which the **Post** didn't publish), and Arana-Ward's own response. **10**

Publisher's Note

The play featured in last month's cover story, *Sweet Nothing in My Ear*, has gotten rave reviews. The **Washington Post** cover story I mentioned last month has gotten some notably negative responses. I decided to reprint it—in full—as this month's cover feature. It's a sure sign that this issue is still hot. And it's getting hotter.

Is **DEAF LIFE** out to bash cochlear implants and deaf people who wear them? No. I believe that some deaf people can benefit from them. Implants, like hearing aids or tactile devices, are a viable choice for some of us. Our February 1991 cover story on Judge Richard Brown focused on a late-deafened adult who had already received an implant. Ken Levinson and Bill Graham received implants after we did cover stories on them (July 1990 and May 1991). **DEAF LIFE** will be profiling other deaf people who have received implants and have been making the most of them.

That said, I want to emphasize that I am deeply disturbed about the growing trend towards implanting young deaf children. An estimated one in ten deaf children in the States has an implant, and the number is projected to grow to one in three. Marie Arana-Ward's **Post** article may have attempted to present both sides of this explosive issue, but ended up reading like pro-implant propaganda. (She seems to divide the deaf population into two camps: happy implantees and fanatical Deaf Culture militants.) The reprint is followed by three letters from Deaf/pro-Deaf) advocates. None of them were published in the **Post**.

Unfortunately, this isn't the end—it's just the beginning.

Matthew S. Moore

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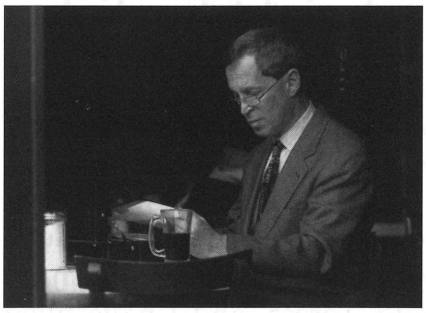

A MATTER OF PERCEPTION?

■ After Marie Arana-Ward's cover story appeared in the May 11 issue of **The Washington Post**, Harlan Lane of Northeastern University's Neurolinguistics Department, James E. Tucker, Superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf's Frederick Campus, and Suzy Rosen, the NAD's Legal Counsel for Government Affairs, expressed their dismay and disappointment. Copies of their letters to the **Post** were circulated through the Deaf community via fax and E-mail. But Arana-Ward claims that her article, although the published version represented half of a much longer draft, took quoted *everyone* accurately, and that she honestly reported what her interviewees told her. **20**

READERS' VIEWPOINT

DEAFVIEW

"A GIANT STEP BACKWARDS"

■ We got a unanimous response to our "Deafview" question about Holly Daniel's invented sign for "Saturn." Is this acceptable ASL? Absolutely not, say our readers. One says that Daniel's sign "is a joke." Another points out that there's no need to invent a sign for a brand name, since these are generally fingerspelled anyway. (There's no sign for the planet "Saturn" either.) What's wrong with fingerspelling a 6-letter name? Others express dismay that Daniel earned money for acting Deaf and hasn't apologized to the Deaf community, and that Saturn didn't consult with a Deaf authority on ASL before producing the commercial. One reader laments that Daniel has spoiled chances for Deaf people to "break into" more TV commercials—but another hopes that Saturn will undo the damage by featuring a real ASL-Deaf person in a future ad. **30**

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Deaf Life

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PUBLISHER
Matthew S. Moore

CO-EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
Matthew S. Moore
Linda Levitan

COPY EDITOR
Linda Levitan

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Charles F. Bancroft

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
David M. Sell

ART DIRECTORS
Matthew S. Moore
Darin Turner

CONTRIBUTING ARTIST
Tony "Mac" McGregor

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Diane White

COLUMNISTS
Michele Listisard
Peggie Parsons
PROTO-X

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Raymond Luczak

ADVISORY BOARD
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LETTERS

"Gallaudet reeks of ASL"

Response to Jan Gemmill ["Letters," February 1997] re: Scientific ASL

You were one of my star students and a dedicated assistant in my History of Art classes. I held you in high esteem—until your criticizing debate (Feb 1997). I disagree with you—you are hereditary deaf (DOD) and I am deaf from hearing (DOHA) and proud of it. We have a different point of view. The more you and ASL militants claim you will rescue poor little DOHA from their hearing parents or adult DOHA, the more you insult us. You imply we are not qualified as role models for children, whether DOD or DOHA. Your backward ways will put these children back in the stone age. You break my heart with your callous disregard for the future of these very children.

I have DOD friends who are the most wonderful living jewels. I'm lucky to know them and call them friends. They support English based on their own experiences growing up ASL oriented.

There are militant DOHA who survive their bad experiences with TC, S.E.E., Cued Speech or Oralism. Ironically many of them have beautiful command of English YET they harangue that ASL as a must for DOHA.

Gallaudet reeks of ASL. ASL linguists and ASL researchers make their likelihood. ASL teachers (many who can't write proper English) need their jobs. Deaf Studies incite ASL, bi-bi, closed world of deaf culture, spreading it's influence throughout the USA as well as abroad. More and more departments on campus are in quagmire of ASL!

It is a miracle how Congress is duped into pumping money into an ASL oriented Gallaudet. The very college which is SUPPOSED to broaden its courses to include various selections of communication to meet the needs of students from all walks of life.

Congress and government people from the cities and states across the nation HEAR Ebonic's and reject it as bi-lingual. Imagine Howard University with Ebonics!!! I know what ASL is like. Because those government people cannot HEAR ASL they do not realize ASL is like Ebonic's, unintelligent.

Jan, I don't agree with you or the ASL militants.

Frances M. Parsons
Washington, D.C.

On lateness, deadlines, ASL,and straight-English interpreting

Dear Matthew:

Enclosed you find two xerox copies of Deaf Life Readers' Viewpoint FAXVIEW which my wife, Teresa, and I have filled out.

Although it is assumed that you will tear them up without counting them in your pools primarily because they came late—past the deadline of April 20, 1997, we thought we would send them anyway.

Let me tell you that I think that the deadline date is obviously a WRONG DATE. My copy of the May 1997 issue came on May 26 with the deadline stating April 20, 1997. How in the world do you expect me—or just anyone who receives this issue, to go back to April 20th and have your deadline observed?

Having a wrong date might be the reason for some sentimental people not responding to your questionnaire. I believe that you would like to receive the responds from the majority of your readers, but are you getting any closer to that true majority by having a wrong date?

LETTERS

For the May issue the date of the deadline could be *June 20* for the results to be printed in the *July issue*, not the June issue. I believe that you would get more reasonably true results that way.

I understand that **Deaf Life** is your magazine, and you should be able to do whatever you want to do with it. For this reason, I am not telling you what to do. I thought perhaps you would like to know what your readers have to say about it or whatever.

Despite of the criticism about the dates of the deadline for responding to the FAXVIEW in your magazine, I would say that it IS a GREAT MAGAZINE, and I hope you will keep it up. In fact it is the only independent magazine of and for the deaf now in existence. By the word—independent, I mean that it is not connected to an organization of the deaf or whatever.

In other words, I think your magazine is the only one related to the Deaf that seems to drive for an approach of unity between the Deaf and the Hearing worlds which is badly needed in these days, more than ever.

Being Deaf myself, I believe that the ASL method of communication should not be widespread, but be limited to where it is functioning best, such as on a stage, or in a classroom of all Deaf individuals. It could also be handy for an interpreter to use where there is often a rapid speaker on a stage.

Many times it is the case that I would like straight English used in order to know the exact wording the speaker is using, such as finger-spelling out the words—excellent, splendid, extraordinary, remarkable, magnificent, striking, notable, distinguished, and such, instead of combining all those words into the ASL sign of the word—good.

ASL has its other drawbacks such as the word *consult* in the sign language is exactly the same as that sign for these other words: advice, warn, remind, encourage, and urge. In that way I would prefer that the interpreter spell out the words instead of giving just that one sign which is confusing.

Most of the experienced interpreters would prefer to avoid using ASL in educational introduction cases for the deaf patient would loose out a lot in vocabulary. ASL could be used for general interpreting only to carry on an idea.

Matthew, I repeat that your magazine is a very good one, and I hope you will continue with it for a long time.

Marvin J. Marshall
Carmel, Indiana

Publisher's note: *I faxed Mr. Marshall a personal response, apologizing for the lateness of some of our recent issues. Several factors are involved in lateness, including the difficulty in getting material (especially photos) in good time, lack of cooperation or slow response from sources, technical glitches, and printer's delays. Readers who get the magazine after the "Deafview" deadline should ignore the deadline and respond anyway. We may be able to squeeze in their responses, especially if we're running late. And we've published some good (late) responses as "Letters to the Editor."*

"Deafview" is now on the Web (http://www.deafview.com). It's separate from the ***DEAF LIFE*** *Website—www.deaflife.com—which is still largely under construction. So if you have access to the Web, you can "click to" the current question and respond right then and there.—MSM*

Deaf art: "I'd buy it if I could!"

I really enjoyed the article, "Neon, sunflowers, & double illusions: Betty Miller continues to grow as an artist and advocate," in the May 1997 issue. In the article, Betty is quoted as saying, "But nobody wants to

LETTERS

buy [my works], except for a few artists who are interested in it. Very few Deaf people have bought my works."

Though I am hearing, I would be interested in looking at her as well as other d/Deaf or De'VIA work. I came across a book of Chuck Baird's called **35 Plates** and I absolutely love it!!! If I knew where I could buy prints of his artistry, I would be more than willing. I would buy the originals if I had the money, but they are most likely out of my price range.

So, if you can, please let me know where I can find books on other d/Deaf or De'VIA artists, or where I can find prints of their artistry being sold!

K. R. Schaefer
Florissant, Missouri

Editors' note: *We wrote back to Ms. Schaefer, noting that DawnSignPress, which publishes* ***Chuck Baird: 35 Plates****, may possibly sell reproductions of his work. They do have poster-sized reproductions of Harry R. Williams' works. As for books—this is a growing field. One example: Mildred Albronda's gorgeously illustrated monograph on Douglas Tilden, newly revised and expanded—a real coffee-table book! There's more—much more.*

We suggested that Ms. Schaefer investigate the possibility of helping to sponsor a Deaf Art exhibit, say, at St. Louis Community College in conjunction with Deaf Awareness Week. We also put her in touch with Betty Miller.

The White House: PR *vs.* real concern for access

I'm responding to the article in June 1997 [**Deaf Life Plus**]: "How the White House Really Treats Deaf Citizens." Sorry this is late and perhaps others have made this point already. I wanted to note something in the different ways Leah King (hearing) and Joan Cassidy (deaf) were treated by the White House. Leah King got the run-around but finally received an interpreter for her deaf son. Joan Cassidy got the run-around about tours of the White House and eventually did receive answers about that. But her more serious questions about access at the Democratic Convention and being able to watch it on C-SPAN and real-time captioning of the inauguration were never answered. It seems our government does not regard the deaf as fully human and is more interested in public relations than in making sure information about its goings-on is accessible!

Jane Hendley (Hearing)
Bailey/Howe Library
University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont

"BIG THANK YOU!!!!"

"For Hearing People Only,"

Is it important for interpreters to socialize with the deaf community?

By the way, I love Deaf Life, because of all the hard work and dedication that is put in to this magazine, I have learned a lot about deaf people and their culture. I feel comfortable with deaf people now that I know more about their culture.

BIG THANK YOU!!!!

Sherry Pifer
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Editors reply: *YOU'RE VERY WELCOME!!!! Due to lack of space, we couldn't squeeze this into last month's "Letters." We did publish the question in last month's "For Hearing People Only" installment.*

LETTERS

"I need my own"

Dear **Deaf Life** Magazine:

Enclosed is my check for a 1 yr. subscription. I am a D/HH Program teacher & interpreter. DL is helpful in keeping me up to date w/the Deaf Community & good for my students' cultural awareness. I have borrowed a friend's copies in the past, but need my own. :-)

Jeanie Vogel
Cottage Grove, Minnesota

Sex abuse in schools: "it's spiraling out of control"

Open letter to Ben Soukup, President of the National Association of the Deaf

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the thousands of deaf individuals who would like action be taken to resolve the problems of sexual abuse "normalcy" in the deaf community and at state residential schools for the deaf.

At this point in time there should be no doubt in anyone's mind that these sexual abuse problems exist. In fact, evidence suggest[s] it is spiraling out of control.

I urge you, as president of the largest advocacy group for the deaf, to take action to reverse these conditions. The NAD is top heavy with committees and sections focusing on areas that many feel are simply just trivial. Simply by getting priorities in order, resources can be made available to help rid the deaf community of a long tradition of sexual abuse "normalcy."

Please be aware that nobody is interested in the assignment of blame for these problems. I'm sure there is plenty of it to go around.

Lastly, if the leaders of the deaf do not take the initiative, it will be resolved for us by those outside the deaf community and I'm dead certain the methods used will not be to anybody's liking.

Sincerely,

Tom Bertling
Wilsonville, Oregon

Editors' note: *Copies of this letter were sent to other Deaf publications, including the* ***NAD Broadcaster****. Attached were copies of newsclips (1994-97) about various sexual-abuse accusations, lawsuits, and court cases (assault, rape, molestation, and harassment) involving employees and students at the Austine School for the Deaf; Governor Baxter School for the Deaf; California School for the Deaf, Riverside; Kentucky School for the Deaf; Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, Staunton; Oregon School for the Blind; and the Helen Keller Center. In most cases, employees were accused of assaulting students; in several cases, students were the culprits. Most of the victims were girls.*

"One of a kind"

Your cover stories in the past few months were great. You bring me up to date on Deaf community. I am a hearing person who just made a few Deaf friends. Your magazine is one of a kind! It is a perfect magazine for both Deaf and hearing who need to know what current issues are current. I really enjoy reading about Deaf people and the current issues affecting the community.

Scott Wilbur
Kansas City, Missouri

All letters must be signed and have a return address. No anonymous (unsigned) letters will be published, but we will withhold your name on request. Send letters to: **DEAF LIFE**, c/o MSM Productions, Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380. FAX: 716-442-6371. E-mail: deaflife@deaflife.com

FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY™

Most speech pathologists I know are nice. Why don't deaf people like them?

—Asked by **Susan Leventer** (a speech pathologist and psychologist), Rochester, New York

Let's say that we have a problem with some of them. An attitude problem.

We have a problem with numerous members of the medical profession. These include physicians, nurses, audiologists, speech pathologists, rehabilitation counselors, clinicians, etc.

Doctors and audiologists are usually the ones who deliver the news to the parents that their little Susie or Tommy is deaf. They sometimes counsel the parents and provide, depending on the doctor or audiologist in question, varying information: pamphlets, a guidebook for parents, a list of contacts and organizations. Or nothing at all. How the doctor or audiologist handles "breaking the news" can have profound repercussions to the parents and the children. And, sad to say, not all doctors and audiologists handle it in a way that's a credit to the profession.

Audiologists measure and chart the pattern of hearing loss—its range, its severity, the amount of residual hearing. They make recommendations to the parents that are usually not taken lightly. Their words carry weight—for better or worse. And in many cases, it *has* been for worse.

Speech pathologists take up where doctors and audiologists leave off. Theirs is the task of molding the speech of the deaf children entrusted to their care into a reasonable semblance of the "normal" speech of hearing people—to develop a pleasant speaking voice, a formidable challenge to those born deaf or early-deafened. They drill their clients in correct pronunciation, teach them how to form sounds correctly, differentiate their vowels, consonants, and diphthongs, put the accent on the correct syllable, gain awareness of their movements, control their breathing and voicing, develop polished articulation and intonation (this is the tough part) and, in general, acquire good speech skills—as good as possible. They do so with wildly varying degrees of success. Many of them are dedicated professionals and perfectionists. Some are appreciated by their clients, regarded with warm affection or quiet respect. Some are seen as demanding but fair. Some are simply resented because speech training is largely

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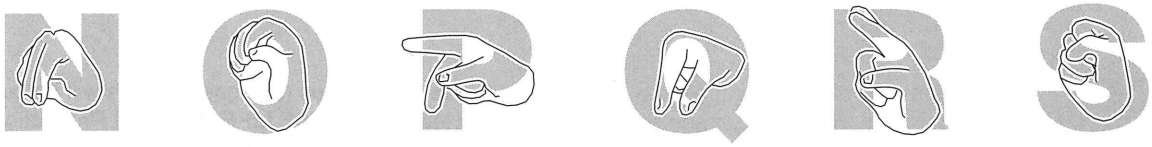

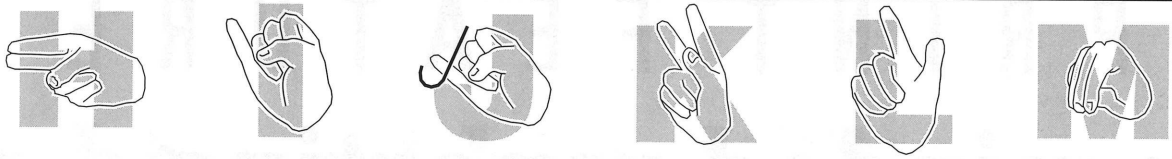

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monotonous, grueling work. Others are seen as villains—brutal, insensitive, demeaning.

Now, we need to emphasize that most ASL-Deaf people are not opposed to speech training. We recognize its utility. It has been part of the curricula of schools and programs for the deaf in the States for over a century. Even Deaf parents of Deaf children believe in giving them practice in speech. Some deaf children benefit from it, and some develop good speech skills that they find useful in their everyday lives or on occasion. But, we add, for too many children it is a frustrating waste of time—time that could be better employed on enhancing their literacy skills. Speech training is neither synonymous with "communication" nor with "education." It supplements them, but it should not supplant them.

What makes speech training a monotonous waste of time—or valuable practice in a vital communication skill? Much depends on the speech pathologist.

We have a problem with the way some speech pathologists see their deaf clients. To put it bluntly, they have contempt. Deaf equals defective. Deaf people possess pathological auditory equipment. They are broken and need to be fixed. They are categorized (and dehumanized) as "hearing-impaired individuals." They need help—from elite hearing professionals. Deaf culture is an illusion. ASL is okay for adult social situations, but deaf kids shouldn't learn it unless they fail with the oral/aural method. There's no point in exerting ourselves, since these deaf people aren't going to amount to much, anyway.

And, let's face it, some of the speech therapists we've known all too intimately weren't good or inspiring teachers, and did nothing to make their sessions enjoyable, or even rewarding. Too many of us have had experience with therapists of the brutalist school: punish the kids when they mispronounce, and they'll get the message. Fine message.

To be fair, the figure of the sadistic speech therapist has gone the way of the ear trumpet and spinster teacher as an appurtenance of the past. From what we know, the contemporary generation of speech therapists are savvier, more sensitive, and take a more enlightened approach than some of their predecessors did.

That said, we would like to reemphasize the point that there are indeed some speech pathologists who respect deaf people, have a positive attitude towards the Deaf community, and even use sign language (to the delight of their clients). But, we emphasize, all too few do. Too many—too many of the ones we've known—adhere to a narrow pathological view. They don't recognize ASL, nor the importance role it plays in our everyday lives. To them, it simply doesn't exist. They don't know anything about it, and don't want to know.

We're all for a better relationship between speech pathologists and their deaf clients. We want them to be well-trained professionals who have a good understanding of Deaf/Hearing communication issues, Deaf history, and insight into the Deaf mindset and human psychology in general. We would like the therapist/client relationship to be one of mutual respect. Not one of antagonism.■

Have a question about Deaf people and their culture?...Write to:
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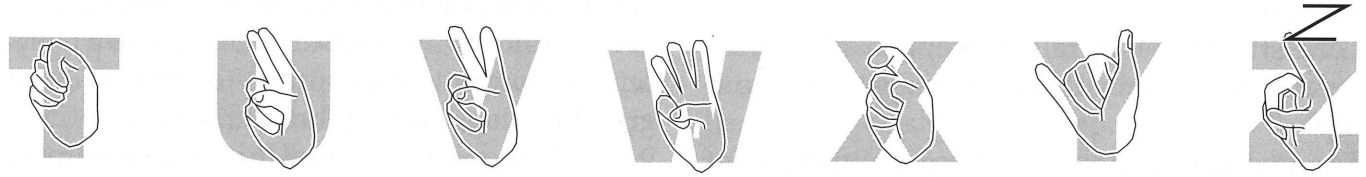


REPRINT FEATURE

Fair-minded reporting—or '

What people read in The Washington Post . .

✏ We are reprinting Marie Arana-Ward's controversial article from the May 11 issue of **The Washington Post** in full, followed by a Deaf leader's rebuttal and two other letters from those who are quoted (or misquoted) in the article. None of these responses were printed in the **Post**, nor did the **Post** publish any correction or apology.—The Editors

As Technology Advances, a Bitter Debate Divides the Deaf

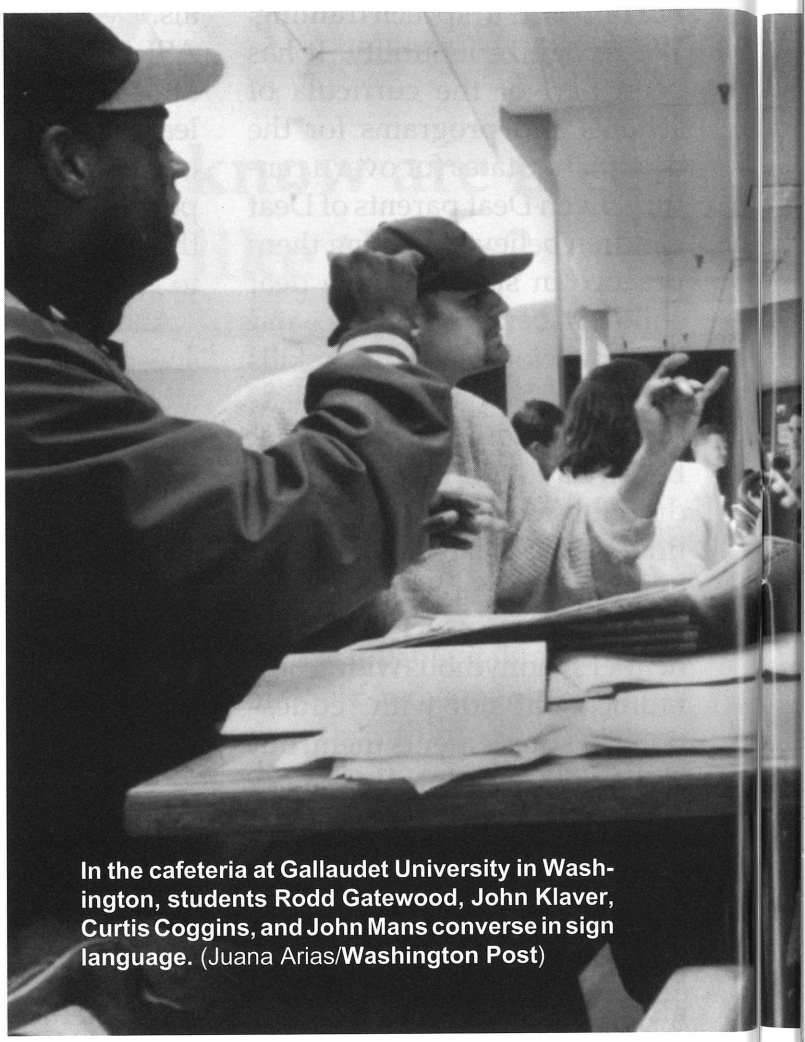
When Kate and Peter Heitman took their seats at a convention hall in Norwood, Mass., last winter, they did not realize they were in a battle zone. The speaker was Harlan Lane, the deaf community's most vocal spokesman. The men and women who had come to hear him—such as the Heitmans—were parents of deaf children.

The subject was the cochlear implant, an electronic hearing device that is surgically inserted into the inner ear, enabling a deaf person to perceive sounds and, in the best of circumstances, to hear and speak. The Heitmans' 7-year-old son, Stephen, who was born deaf and had had one for five years, was an incessant chatterbox, reading three years above grade level. So they were startled to hear Lane say there was not one known case of a child acquiring language with an implant.

When Kate Heitman raised her hand and offered to bring her boy forward to demonstrate his fluency, Lane waved her away. "With all due respect, madam," he said, "I don't need to meet your son."

Lane still refuses to talk to Stephen. "Cochlear implants are bad medicine," he says. "Pure and simple."

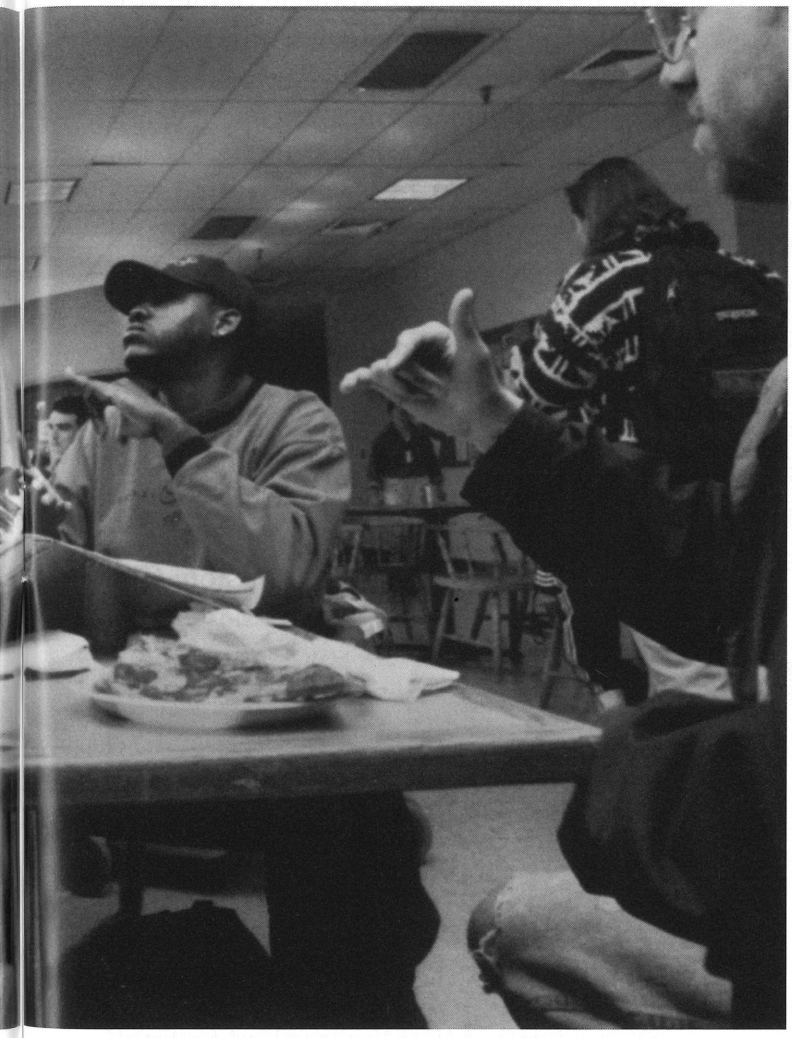
The question of how to raise profoundly deaf children—either within the small, specialized world of American Sign Language or by teaching them to mimic speech they cannot hear—has always been a divisive issue among the deaf. But now the cochlear implant, a medical breakthrough approved for use in children only seven years ago, has the potential to change the debate. At the very minimum, an implant enables a deaf child to sense environmental sounds—a honking horn, a growling dog, a roll of thunder. At the optimum, it can bring a child into the mainstream oral



In the cafeteria at Gallaudet University in Washington, students Rodd Gatewood, John Klaver, Curtis Coggins, and John Mans converse in sign language. (Juana Arias/**Washington Post**)

"a biased botch"?

. . . and what they didn't



world.

But because of its emphasis on the oral, the implant has drawn fire from a small but industrious movement known as Deaf Culture, which says the emerging technology is a threat to a deaf child's "birthright of silence." Deafness is a condition to be celebrated, the movement's leaders say. If science eradicates it, a whole way of life will die.

As a result, Deaf Culture has declared war on the implant, possibly making the device the first medical innovation to be rejected by some leaders of the community it was meant to serve. The war between the movement and the supporters of the implant is one of disputed research, passionate certainties and a dearth of communication. And children are at the heart of it.

The Medical 'Miracle'

Unlike a hearing aid, which amplifies sound, a cochlear implant feeds electrical impulses directly to the brain, doing the work of damaged hair cells in the inner ear. Since its release, 14,000 devices have been surgically inserted into deaf people in this country, most of them into children.

That represents a mere 4 percent of all profoundly deaf Americans. But it is the recent growth rate in implanting very young children—who either are born deaf (congenital) or have become deaf before learning to speak (prelingual)—that infuriates Deaf Culture proponents. Today, one deaf child in 10 has a cochlear implant. In the next decade, projections suggest, the ratio will grow to one in three.

Deaf Culture activists maintain that those children are sure to be failures—deprived of the dignity of their deafness and yet never accepted as full members of the hearing world. They say that choosing to implant children is irresponsible, done for the convenience of hearing parents. At the very least, they argue, deaf children should be allowed to wait to make the choice themselves. They recommend that deaf children be raised by the deaf community, using American Sign Language, in one of 35 residential schools scattered across the country. Trying to "fix" a deaf child, they say, is like trying to fix someone because he or she speaks Japanese.

On the other hand, the doctors and therapists

who work with implant cases point to thousands of those children who board school buses every day, speak English in mainstream schools and aspire to jobs that will require them to hear and speak. An implant, they say, could open the door to a better future.

The statistics the deaf have gathered about themselves are grim. The average deaf person today reads at a fourth-grade level. One in three drops out of high school. Only one in five who starts college gets a degree. Deaf adults make 30 percent less than the general population. Their unemployment rate is high, and when they are employed, it is usually in manual jobs such as kitchen workers, janitors, machine operators, tailors and carpenters, for which a strong command of English is not required. Children with implants, the doctors assert, if prepared well and encouraged to speak, have a whole world of opportunities to choose from.

"Deaf spokespeople are always talking about their 'God-given talent for sign' and that we're robbing them of that ability by having them focus on speech," says John Niparko, an implant surgeon at Johns Hopkins University. "But the fact is that there is a very complex neural pathway in each child from the auditory nerve to the brain. That part is normal in most deaf children—and it's a God-given pathway. If the hair cells in the cochlea are not doing their job, that incredible pathway just sits there unused. All a cochlear implant does is activate a God-given thing."

Activation alone, however, is no guarantee. Some children become frustrated by the work that must follow implantation. And some, particularly adolescents, abandon the implant in favor of a life among deaf peers.

It's the implant "failures" whom James Tucker, superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf, sees.

"I've invited the surgeons here to see these kids for themselves," he says. "They never come." And if they don't come, he adds, how can they understand what a teenager is going through when he or she yanks off a processor and refuses to turn it back on? "We are the dumping ground," he says. "If only they would talk to us first."

Today, one deaf child in 10 has a cochlear implant. In the next decade, projections suggest, the ratio will grow to one in three.

Much of the confusion about the implant stems from its newness: Not only is the technology constantly being improved but the follow-up research also is rarely more than five years old. Case studies taken at random can be misleading. "They trot out the stars," says Harlan Lane, "and thousands are duped." A New York 7-year-old, born deaf and implanted at 2, can speak five languages perfectly; a 14-year-old in the Washington area, born normal, deafened by meningitis and implanted later, can hardly speak at all.

Two years ago, the National Institutes of Health held a Consensus Development Conference on Cochlear Implants to study the issue. Its conclusion: The cochlear implant's "benefits have been observed in children, and there is evidence that those benefits improve with continued use." When asked about this, the National Association of the Deaf produced a news release it has been using since April 1993: "There is no evidence of material benefit from the device in this population, and no evaluation of long-term risks."

As Tucker puts it: "A noted doctor once admitted that the implant technology is still in its infancy, kind of like the Wright brothers' airplane. Now, ask yourself this: Do you want to fly to Paris from BWI in a Wright brothers airplane?"

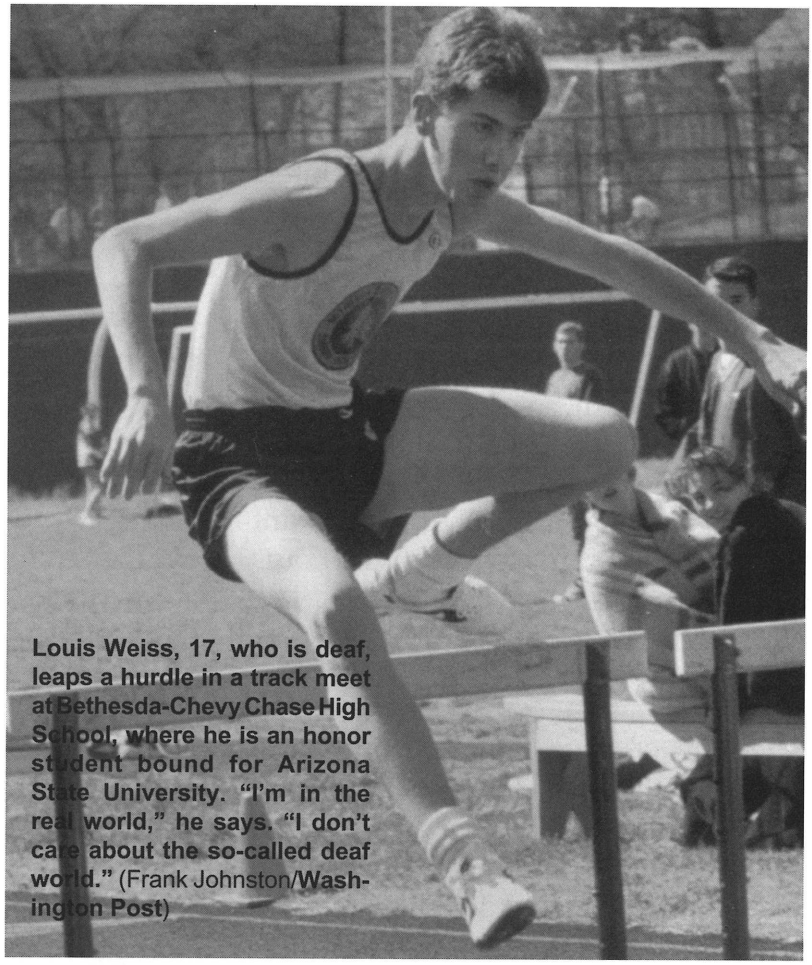
Donna Dickman, executive director of the Alexander Graham Bell Association, says: "Mr. Tucker is entitled to his point of view. But I've traveled this nation talking to children with implants. I've watched them debate, speak foreign languages, compete in spelling bees, sports

events, cheerleading competitions, you name it. And I've watched them be just one of the kids. If this technology is in its infancy, just imagine what their future holds."

'I'm in the Real World'

Louis Weiss, a senior at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, is an outgoing 17-year-old honor student with sparkling eyes and an impish grin. He runs track, chats in French and Danish, loves to argue, loves girls, reads Vonnegut, scored 700 on his math SAT, wants to be an aerospace engineer and has had a cochlear implant for 14 years of his young life. Born to hearing parents, as 90 percent of deaf children are, he contracted a severe case of meningitis at 10 months. When the fever lifted, he was profoundly deaf. His mother noticed it first.

"I would get under his crib while he slept," recalls Judy Weiss, an advertising



Louis Weiss, 17, who is deaf, leaps a hurdle in a track meet at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, where he is an honor student bound for Arizona State University. "I'm in the real world," he says. "I don't care about the so-called deaf world." (Frank Johnston/**Washington Post**)

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

The signed language of the deaf in the United States is American Sign Language (ASL). Its fluent users—deaf and non-deaf people with high proficiency—number about 400,000.

There are hundreds of sign languages around the world, all different. No universal system exists. Manual signing, although long used by many cultures, from Trappist monks to Plains Indians, was systematized in the 18th century by the French Abbé de l'Epée. Signing found strong support in the United States when Edward Miner Gallaudet introduced his ideas in the mid-1800s, but it was banned from classroom use after the 1880 Congress of Deaf Educators in Milan, Italy, at which Alexander Graham Bell argued that if they limited themselves to sign, they would be marginalized.*

ASL developed largely as an unofficial form of communication until U.S. linguists in the 1970s recognized it as a richly expressive language system, although it has no written form.°

ASL is a distinct language, unrelated to "signed English" (it has its own highly intricate grammar, for instance). To illustrate the differences, the signals for "train go sorry" (the title of a recent book about deafness) represent the English phrases "I missed what you just said," "I lost the opportunity" or "I missedthe boat."†

*Correct term: International Congress for the Improvement of Deaf-Mutes. Also know as the "International Congress of Teachers of the Deaf."—Editors

° William Stokoe published the first analysis of what he called ASL in 1960, a paper titled "Sign Language Structure," in **Studies in Linguistics**, a scholarly journal published by University of Buffalo. He published his pioneering dictionary in 1965.—Editors

† More accurately, "*You* missed what I just said," "*You* lost the opportunity," or "*You* missed the boat."—Editors

creative director in Bethesda, "and yell and carry on. He just didn't respond." When she took him to an audiologist, she was handed a paper certifying him as deaf. "I saw a psychologist, a deaf interpreter, a deaf teacher. They all said I should drop my expectations and that Louie should learn to sign."

Judy started to learn American Sign Language (ASL) but ended up preferring cued speech, a system in which the speaker uses hand signals to clarify the basic phonemes in spoken English, to make lipreading easier. She did not want to translate her conversations with Louis into a completely new language (ASL is a full linguistic entity unto itself. See box, this page.) "I wanted to be able to blurt out whatever I was feeling," she says, "to get English into him immediately." The whole family learned to cue. Eventually, so did Louis.

By then, Judy and her husband, Joseph, an architect, decided to give up their respective businesses in St. Louis and move to the Washington area, where there was an active circle of cuers. Washington in general is an attractive place for the family of a deaf child. In the area are Gallaudet University, Western Maryland College, the Maryland School for the Deaf, the Alexander Graham Bell Association, an engaged Maryland school system, the NIH, Johns Hopkins and a whole host of other national associations and educational entities committed to the advancement of the deaf.

Within months of their arrival, Judy was out strolling on a Maryland beach with Louis, passing a woman and her dog. The dog growled at Louis, but the little boy—not hearing the sound—approached it unafraid. When the dog leapt out to bite, Judy pulled Louis back, horrified. "What is he, deaf?" the woman said with a sneer. "What are you, blind?" responded Judy, pointing at the No Pets sign. But the incident was grave evidence that without the ability to hear, her child was in danger.

"I love my implant," Louis Weiss says. "I'm in the real world. I don't care about the so-called deaf world."

Judy attended a cochlear implant presentation soon after that. It was 1983, 22 years after William House bad started his clinical trials of the device in California. Eventually, the Weisses flew to Los Angeles to seek House's assistance. By the time he was 3, Louis was fitted with a cochlear implant, one of a handful of pioneer children to be given the opportunity.

When Louis returned to Bethesda, he was still deaf—the cochlear implant is not a cure—but with the flip of a switch he could admit a world of sound. The sensory rush was constant and bewildering; not until much later would he learn to sort through it.

"I love my implant," Louis says today, with a slight slur that is characteristic of some cochlear implant wearers. Apart from the fact that the Montgomery County school system provides him with a cuer in school, he seems no different from any other teenager there. "I'm in the real world. I don't care about the so-called deaf world. When I went to testify on behalf of the implants, I saw them, the people from the school for the deaf. They said we were making fools of ourselves. I just ignored them. I'm happy with who I am. I want a real education, more work, more responsibility. Next year, I'm going to go to Arizona State University and get into life. I'm ready."

Judy Weiss expresses no doubts about the decision to implant Louis. She remembers hearing a talk-show host ask an activist for the deaf whether he expected employers to hire an interpreter every time they hired a deaf person. The spokesman replied: "No. You don't need an interpreter to run a Xerox machine." "Well," says Weiss, "I want more for Louie than a career running a Xerox machine, thank you very much. And guess what? So does Louie."

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'The Kids Were Mean'

Brent Sunderland, of Frederick, Maryland, wants the best for his son, too. Sunderland and his wife are physicians—he's a psychiatrist; she's a pediatrician. When they learned that their son, Jason, was deaf, they moved from Texas to Maryland to avail themselves of the area's good services. When Jason seemed a good candidate for a cochlear implant at age 2, they got him one. When a better model came along, they got him that. When the second implant didn't take, they got him a third.

"He had dramatic effects with the third one, and his speech acquired a nice phonetic quality," Jason's father says.

But something happened when Jason turned 14. "He didn't want to use his implant at all," his father recounts. "He was struggling, trying to get by socially and academically, and he realized just how different he looked. The wires. The effort. He became angry and oppositional, talked back to teachers, got detentions. Longer questions would confuse him, and he would get lost in class, fall behind. When he started to get into physical fights, we decided to take him out and put him in the Maryland School for the Deaf."

Today, Jason is in the eighth grade at the School for the Deaf, communicating in sign. "Public school was so crowded," he says, "and the kids were mean." Jason uses his cochlear implant sometimes when he is at home, talking with his family or listening to CDs. But at the school, where students take a dim view of anyone with an implant, he leaves it off. "I like having deaf friends," he says. "I'm happy to use sign." His new girlfriend, an ASL user, can't communicate in anything but sign.

"If we had it to do all over again, we would do the same," Brent Sunderland says. "We always suspected he'd switch to Deaf Culture at this age, but we wanted to give him an advantage if he ever wanted to use it." The Sunderland family is now learning to sign.

And what will Jason do when he grows up?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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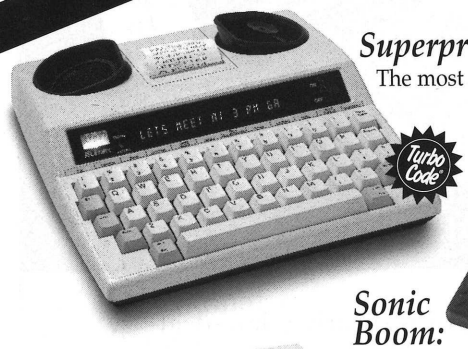

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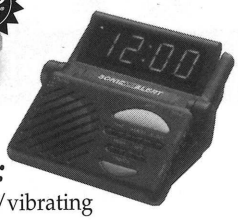

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

"Probably go to a technical college," his father says, "maybe become a carpenter. He's always been good with his hands."

The Dispute

Western Maryland College has the largest teacher-training program in deaf education in the United States, and the students there are largely "deaf of deaf"—children of deaf parents, raised using sign language. They have fluency and sophistication in ASL that are rare and exciting to observe.

In a graduate linguistics class, two young women are gossiping in the corner, flapping their hands and grinning (the teacher frowns at them to be quiet). An impassioned debate builds on how best to teach language. Hands punch the air; torsos lean into the fray.

Hearing people are always surprised to learn that deaf parents in neonatal wards cheer when they are told their babies cannot hear. Deaf Culture families see any effort to teach the deaf to speak as repugnant. The ASL sign for cochlear implant is a two-fingered stab to the back of the neck. "Let me put it this way," says Judith Coryell, head of Western Maryland's deaf-education program and the mother of two deaf children. "Say you were black. Do you think you'd be considering surgery to make yourself white?"

The deaf have known extraordinary prejudice through the centuries. Before 1750, to be deaf was to be retarded, uneducable, even possessed. Many of the "afflicted" were sterilized, committed to asylums and institutions, their hands tied behind their backs to prevent them from communicating.

Not until the 1960s, when the civil-rights movement burst upon the scene, did the deaf begin to consider their own "ethnic" possibilities. Differences were celebrated; ideas of cultural cohesion were discussed. Quite coincidentally, at the start of that decade, when an epidemic of German measles swept the country, many children were

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made deaf, and the population boomed. In 1973, a federal law was passed mandating the education of handicapped children in the public schools. At the same time, linguists pronounced ASL an official language. By the 1980s, when the rubella bulge came of age, a strong, militant "deaf pride" leadership had emerged.

At Gallaudet University, I. King Jordan became the first deaf president in 1988 when a core group of six Deaf Culture militants, all in their late twenties, orchestrated student demonstrations against a hearing president. Deaf people across the country were galvanized by the image of students raising their arms in unified protest. Residential schools began to hire deaf administrators, and courts began to issue severe penalties against anyone who was shown to discriminate against the hearing-impaired. Sign-language interpreters have become a common sight today, as have close-captioned TVs, TTYs (text telephones for the deaf), relay services, assistive devices and a new generation of hearing aids.

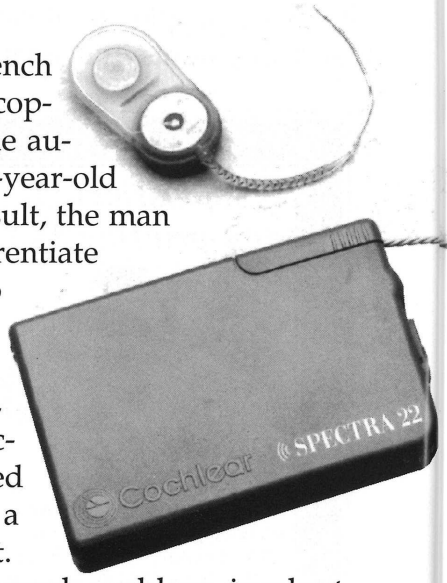
With this heightened awareness, however, has come a radical segment: those who call cochlear implants "the devil's work"; who consider Miss America 1995, the deaf Heather Whitestone, a charlatan because she speaks; who picket oralist deaf schools and stop parents of children with implants in malls, demanding to know why they butcher deaf babies.

That kind of ardor doesn't sit well with deaf people who have grown up happily with cochlear implants. "I *so* don't identify with hearing-impaired people," says T.L., a Manhattan high-school senior bound for Brown University and another of William House's pioneer children who has had an implant for 14 years. "I'm glad my parents decided to let me be like everyone else." Her parents, however, are afraid enough of the radical elements of deaf culture to not allow her name to be used.

"I hear plenty about the point of view of Deaf Culture," says Christa Lopez, executive vice president of the student body at Loyola Marymount College in California, who became deaf as a toddler and was fitted with an implant at 16. "I want my voice heard, too. I want people to know how good an oralist's life can be. It takes hard work, but it has a big payback."

Susan Abrams Pollack, 25, doesn't like the word "oralist." Nor does she like any of the other "isms" that come up in conversations about deafness. "I'm just a person who doesn't hear as well as the rest. Deaf Culture is misinformed about cochlear implants and about the rest of us deaf people—the majority—who just want to get along in the world. They call me a 'hearing wannabe,' but I don't care. The implant has given me a world of opportunity." Pollack lost her hearing at 7. By 12, she had an implant in House's trials. A journalism graduate of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, she is an editor and copywriter in the

THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT



In 1957, two French doctors attached a copper electrode to the auditory nerve of a 50-year-old deaf man. As a result, the man was able to differentiate some words and to lip-read more effectively. Three years later, in California, William House successfully implanted his first device, a single-channel unit.

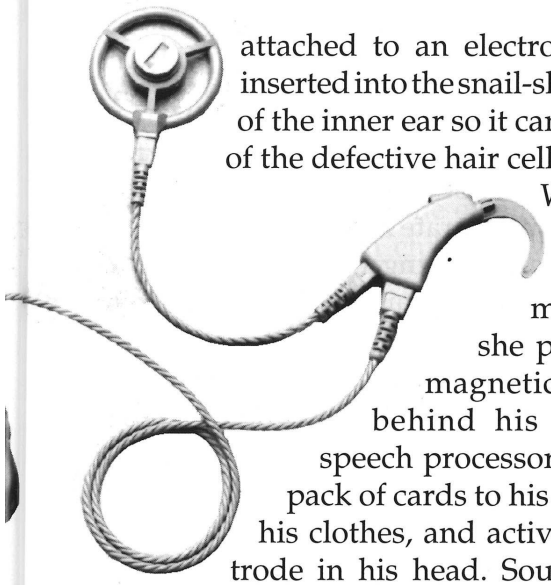
Today's multichannel cochlear implant—including the device, surgery and rehabilitation—costs about $30,000, part of which many insurance companies will cover. There are three major manufacturers—Australia's Cochlear, Austria's Med-EI and the U.S. company Clarion, a division of Advanced Bionics.

The procedure takes about two hours, during which the patient is under general anesthesia. The surgeon cuts a flap of skin behind one ear, makes a small well in the bone and installs a magnetic disk about the size of a half-dollar. The disk is attached to a 25-millimeter wire

Washington office of McGraw-Hill.

At Gallaudet, the intellectual center of American Deaf Culture, when the freshmen shave their heads as they ritually do every year, there are always one or two with old scars of implantation behind their ears. Those are, according to Jordan, the president, the only evidence he sees of implants at the university. As anyone at Gallaudet knows, a student with a device behind his or her ear runs the risk of being shunned. "I have some friends with implants," says Scott Mohan, a sixth-generation deaf senior at Gallaudet. "They just don't use them anymore."

The cochlear implant, which typically costs $30,000, is an electrode surgically attached to a part of the inner ear. It is activated through a transmitter by a speech processor that is clipped to the body.



attached to an electrode, which is inserted into the snail-shaped cochlea of the inner ear so it can do the work of the defective hair cells.

When the patient heals after about a month, he or she places a small magnetic transmitter behind his ear, clips a speech processor the size of a pack of cards to his belt or inside his clothes, and activates the electrode in his head. Sounds are converted to electrical impulses, processed and sent directly to the auditory nerve.

The Food and Drug Administration approved implants for adults in 1985; in 1990, it approved implants for children as young as 2. In Europe, children have received implants as early as 8 months. According to implant doctors, the success of a cochlear implant depends entirely on a rich language environment: "The implant is 10 percent hardware and 90 percent software," says Mary Koch, an audiologist at Johns Hopkins University. The more speech a child with an implant encounters, the better his or her performance is likely to be.

"You can understand why," says Keith Muller, executive director of the New York league of the Hard of Hearing in New York City. "Kids who try to speak in deaf schools are ridiculed. And the greater their oral success, the more they are criticized."

Gallaudet, which was founded by Congress, depends almost entirely on government funding. Jordan walks a tightrope when he speaks about the cochlear implant. On the one hand, the school's annual endowment of more than $79 million is based on the premise that its students are disabled; on the other, the deaf-pride movement that refuses to be called disabled is the group that swept him, a deaf man, to the helm of the institution.

"I'm a big-tent kind of guy," Jordan says. Deafened by a motorcycle accident at 19, he speaks clearly enough but needs a sign-language interpreter to understand speech. "People think I should use my bully pulpit to oppose implants in children, but I disagree. I don't think that's being wishy-washy. No one should assume they can make those kinds of decisions for anyone else."

Not until the generation implanted starting in 1990 begins to reach adulthood in 2006 will the true impact of the cochlear implant be known. Even so, implant manufacturers are rushing to develop new models. Ron West, CEO of Cochlear Corp.—by far the largest manufacturer of the implant—reports that next year, the company will unveil the Nucleus-24, a wireless unit worn entirely behind the ear. "We're not in business to serve the Deaf Culture," says Cochlear's audiologist, Doug House. "That's not our constituency. Where the rubber meets the road is the hearing parent. That's whom we serve."

Parents also are uppermost in the mind of Muller of the League of the Hard of Hearing. "If you are a member of Deaf Culture, there is absolutely nothing wrong in raising your deaf child to be a part of it," he says. "And if you are a hearing parent and want your child to participate in your world, that's fine, too. Early diagnosis is crucial. Get your child fitted with hearing aids at 4 weeks and give them the best start they can get."

For someone who considers himself product of the deaf revolution, Muller is quite supportive of implantation for children. "And why not?" he

asks. "If I'm the parent of a deaf child and know there's a device that help him hear, aren't I neglectful if I don't equip him? . . . Let's stop challenging the failure rates. Let's look at the successes. What's really working? And why?"■

Deaf Life by Marie Arana-Ward
Staff Writer, **The Washington Post**

This article originally appeared (in a slightly different form) as a cover story in the Sunday, May 11, 1997 issue of **The Washington Post**, and is reprinted with permission. The two original subheadings (where the article is continued across a page break) are: "Activists Slam Devices That Help Deaf 'Hear,'" and "Deaf Children Caught in Middle As Advocates Battle Over Implants." Copyright © 1997, **The Washington Post**. All rights reserved. Special thanks to Kimberley M. Arrington of the **Post's** Permissions Department, and to Michele Listisard.

A not-so-silent uproar: readers respond

✏ The following letters were sent to **The Washington Post** by Suzy Rosen, Legal Counsel for Government Affairs, NAD; Harlan Lane of Northeastern University's Department of Neurolinguistics; and James E. Tucker, Superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick Campus.

Lane and Tucker, both of whom were quoted in Arana-Ward's **Post** article, spent considerable time corresponding with her via E-mail while she was gathering information, discussing issues relating to cochlear implants and the Deaf community, and in general, educating her on the complexities. They wanted her to get a clearer, more complete picture—the whole picture, not just the cochlear-implant lobby's narrow view. Neither felt that her article, as published, gave an accurate representation of both sides of this complex issue. Lane, who came off worst in the article, denies making any of the quotations that Arana-Ward attributed to him, and asked for an apology. (The **Post** remained silent about that, although it published letters from other readers.)

The letters from Rosen and Lane were distributed throughout the community via E-mail, including Philip Moos' NJ-L service. We are reprinting these letters in full, by permission of the authors, together with Jay Innes' comment from NJ-L, our E-mail "mini-interview" with Lane, Tucker's **Maryland Bulletin** essay, "Questions, Questions, and Questions . . .," which Tucker gave Arana-Ward while she was researching her article. She quoted (approximately) one tiny part of this in her finished article, and, it would seem, ignored the rest! Her own response is at the end.

"Misleading, inaccurate and irresponsible"

May 14, 1997

Letters to the Editor
The Washington Post
1150 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20071

Dear Editor,
On behalf of the National Association of the Deaf, the nation's largest and oldest consumer-based organization which safeguards the accessibility and civil rights of 28 million deaf and hard of hearing Americans, I must bring to your attention the misleading and inaccurate statements made regarding cochlear implants and the position of the deaf community in the article, "As Technology Advances, A Bitter Debate Divides the Deaf," featured on the front page of the **Washington Post** on May 11, 1997.

Although the author, Ms. Arana-Ward, may have attempted to depict a balanced account, the

story utterly fails to indicate any of the many significant drawbacks of the cochlear implant. At the very minimum, the cochlear implant not only fails to be of use to the child, but also may preclude any opportunity for the child to be exposed to visual language in order to receive the crucial language and academic development necessary to become a productive member of our society. In her citation to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Consensus Development Conference Statement on Cochlear Implants, Ms. Arana-Ward fails to elicit correctly the conclusion of the NIH Panel that explicitly declared that the variability for the benefits across children is substantial, that the limited prediction of implant efficacy in a specific individual remains to be a pressing problem, that the Panel recognizes that it is still in the early stages of cochlear implant application, that data on cognitive and academic development following implantation are not yet available, that the extent of psychological impact in children with implants deserves more study to produce useful indicators that can bear on the parental decision-making process, and last but not least, that no agreement exists on the definition of a successful implant user.

Ms. Arana-Ward irresponsibly perpetuates the widespread failure of the industry to fully inform parents and potential implant users of the significant medical risks of cochlear implantation and maintenance. Major complications (those requiring revision surgery) include flap problems, device migration or extrusion, device failure, facial palsy, manufacturing defects, use-related trauma, pedestal fracture, unwanted facial nerve stimulation with electrode activation, pedestal infections which require explantation, flap breakdowns, electrode migration, receiver-stimulator migration, and otitis media (ear infections, a significant concern especially when such is common for children: abnormally high use of antibiotics lead to resistant bacteria). Also, implants are incompatible with the high magnetic fields of an Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner, and must be removed before this invaluable diagnostic tool can be employed. Implants can be also destroyed by electrostatic discharge, so a simple ride down a playground slide may force a child (such as one in Illinois) to undergo a second surgery to replace the implant. Many devices, such as baby monitors, computer monitors, cellular phones, balloons, VandeGraff machines, and airport security scanners, may create interference with or by the operation of the implant.

"Although Arana-Ward may have attempted to depict a balanced account, her story utterly fails to indicate any of the many significant drawbacks of the cochlear implant."
—
Suzy Rosen

Most importantly, implants are still constantly improvised, and should not be used on children until their usefulness is fully and concretely demonstratively proven. The implant is still an innovative piece of equipment, and insufficient data exists to illustrate the number of times the user has to undergo surgery in order to maintain the capabilities of the implant throughout the user's lifetime. Repetitive re-implantation is not recommended because of the possible irreversible damage done by implantation, so a current implant user may be forced to endure the primitive features by an implantation done prematurely. In fact, the NIH Panel conceded that an optimum number of channels for a cochlear implant is still in dispute, and that research and longitudinal studies must be attempted to explain the unexplained variability in the performance of implant users of all ages. Ms. Arana-Ward forgets that amplification of sounds may be obtained through simple external devices such as hearing aids, and such devices do not require such serious and unnecessary manipulation of the child's skull accompanied by unknown and unforeseeable long-term results.

Ms. Arana-Ward also paints a falsely

bleak picture of the expected life of a deaf person without cochlear implantation. Must I remind Ms. Arana-Ward that deaf people can do anything but hear, especially with the assurance of rights provided by pertinent antidiscriminatory laws such as the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973? Contrary to her insinuations of the "grim statistics about the deaf," countless numbers of deaf people have achieved and continue to achieve exemplary professional accomplishments as attorneys, dentists, physicians, veterinarians, professors, high-level administrators, and the list exponentially grows with every passing day of increased access and public awareness. Instead, Ms. Arana-Ward unwarrantedly characterizes such superachievers as militants who thrust a deaf man into presiding over the prestigious post-secondary institution, Gallaudet University.

On a final note, however, I commend Ms. Arana-Ward for masterfully capturing the essence of the spirit of the cochlear implant industry movement: to serve the hearing parent, not the deaf, because, as she quotes from the largest manufacturer of the implant which will be unveiling a newer model next year, the hearing parent is actually "where the rubber meets the road."

It is precisely for this reason the National Association of the Deaf deplores the decision of the Food and Drug Administration to approve the marketing of cochlear prosthesis for surgical implantation in children aged two through seventeen. For the reasons delineated above, the FDA decision is unsound scientifically, procedurally, and ethically; and on behalf of the NAD, I am deeply dismayed that the opportunity to shed light on this quandary has been forfeited by the lack of such fundamental information incorporated in Ms. Arana-Ward's article.

Sincerely,

Suzy Rosen
Legal Counsel for Government Affairs
NAD
Silver Spring, Maryland

cc: Ms. Arana-Ward (via electronic mail)

"A one-sided hostile stance toward deaf people's views"

May 17, 1997

Editor-in-Chief
The Washington Post

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

I must, sadly, add my own criticism to the withering letter of criticism sent you by the National Association of the Deaf concerning the article in your paper on May 11 about cochlear implants.

I categorically deny making the statements that I am quoted as making in that article. I further deny making the statements that were attributed to me in that article. I had extended conversations with your reporter Marie Arana-Ward during which she could easily have asked to confirm those quotations and attributions; she did not.

An even greater disservice to your newspaper, your readers, and deaf people was Marie Arana-Ward's failure to include any of the crucial information that I did provide about the published scientific literature, which shows very poor language performance with implants by most deaf children. I also reviewed with her the associated ethical dilemmas, which have received wide debate; she chose to ignore them.

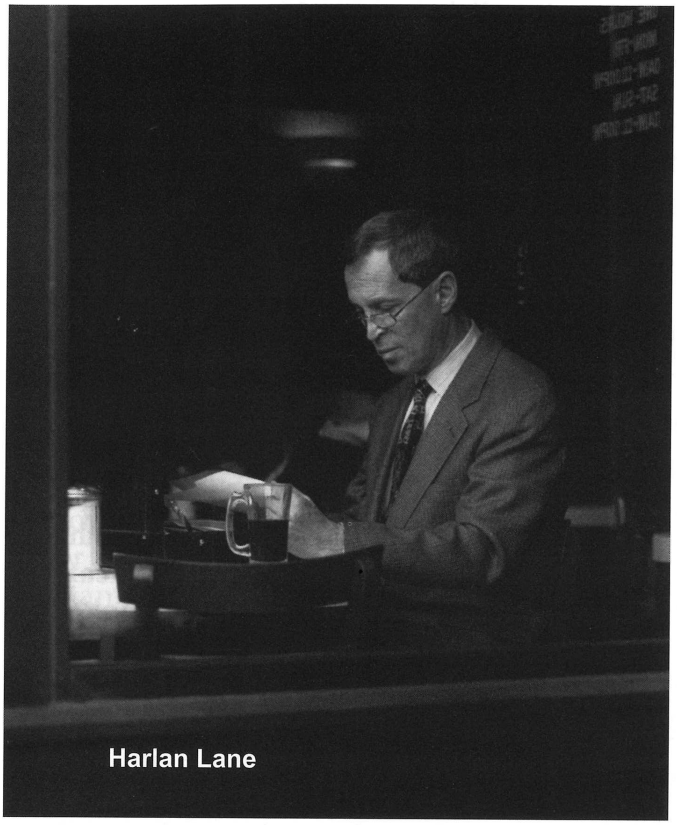
Would you please ask your reporter for her sources for the quotations that were attributed to me in quotes and in indirect discourse? When you are satisfied that she either invented that information or used hearsay, I would appreciate a published letter of apology.

Finally, it is baffling to me why the **Washington Post** would take such a one-sided hostile stance toward deaf people's views. Deaf organizations throughout the world, including the World Federation of the Deaf with 110 member nations, have condemned childhood cochlear implants. There's a fascinating story here—about medical vogues, about tolerance of difference, about bioethics, and about language and culture—and your paper utterly missed it.

Sincerely yours,

Harlan Lane
George J. Matthews and
Kathleen Waters Matthews
University Distinguished Professor
Northeastern University
Boston, Massachusetts

✏ A copy of this letter was also distributed through NJ-L.



Harlan Lane

Postscript: Mini-interview with Harlan Lane

In your response to the *Post*, you vehemently denied making the statements attributed to you. Would these be *all* the quotes in the article?

I would be very unlikely to make such remarks and, to the best of my recollection, I did not make them. I believe the quotes are invented to make the simplistic story that mothers and love are on the side of implants while strange deaf people and a few of their bizarre allies are opposed to them.

Did you really meet Kate Heitman? And did you really refuse to meet her son Stephen? Is the anecdote cited at the beginning of the article a fabrication? What *really* happened?

I did give a lecture against CI for children born Deaf at Boston University, and I believe Ms. Heitman attended. I do in fact think that meeting children is not the way to decide national medical policy, but I would never refuse to meet an implant user—unless it involved some hardship. You never know what you might learn; why offend the parents, anyway; and I care about D/deaf people with and without implants. My guess is that Ms. Heitman imagined those quotes, having correctly sensed my underlying belief that only published research is legitimate evidence for public-health policy, then told them to reporter Arana-Ward, who didn't bother to check on them, though I spent God knows how many hours on the phone with her. Jamie Tucker spent even more time trying to educate her. I know it doesn't make sense to believe that she's out to get Deaf people, yet she made such a biased botch of the story, it's hard to think of an explanation.

Did you get an apology (or any sort of response) from the *Post*?

No, I have not received any reply from the **Post**.

Are you considering taking any legal action against Ms. Arana-Ward or the *Post*? Fabricating quotes is pretty serious stuff.

It would take a lot of time to sue them and I don't think it would be offset by some gain for me or Deaf people.

I myself would never refuse to meet an adult or child with an implant. I have met several implanted children (at conferences, etc.) and none of them could communicate with me. And I think the kids were smart enough to recognize that they were missing something—something important. At an educational conference in North Carolina, I saw an ASL-Deaf boy approach a boy who had an implant and an oral interpreter. The ASL-using boy tried to communicate, but the implanted boy couldn't understand him at all. How typical was he? Well, how typical are oral whizkids like Louis Weiss?

A very small percent of children who are implant candidates, because they are profoundly deaf, are deafened after learning English. According to a survey by the Center for Assessment and Demographic Studies at Gallaudet University, I would estimate about 3 percent. So it would be a mistake to generalize about deaf children from one who belongs to the 3-percent minority. By age 6, that child had hearing language and hearing culture. He will go on speaking pretty well with or without an implant, but his good speech will be presented as the result of the implant. His speech recognition will also be vastly better than the 86 percent born deaf, because he does not need to learn an oral language, only to connect up the weird sounds coming from the implant with his auditory memory of English. Moreover, knowing spoken language beforehand is a big help in lipreading. So I would expect your special case to behave more like deafened adults—people who lost their hearing in their 20s, say, and then got an implant. They speak well; more than half get enhanced lipreading; and some small percent can actually use the telephone (for simple things).

Therefore, I would urge you to consider including a born-deaf child in your [upcoming] story—one who got an implant. The typical speech-recognition scores of such children after many years of implant use and grueling oralism is zero-zip—not *one* word correct. There is not a single case published of a child acquiring spoken language thanks to an implant. A balanced story would have to present the typical outcome as well as the special outcome for the 3 percent. I would also add that the serious ethical problems with this surgery are attenuated when we talk about a child who clearly was a hearing child with hearing parents, a hearing language, and hearing acculturation. That kid, I think, does have a disability. The issue is what about clearly culturally Deaf kids, those born Deaf or early become so, whose life trajectory will normally take them into the Deaf-World?

Gallaudet students with devices behind their ears run the risk of being shunned. "I have some friends with implants," says Scott Mohan, a sixth-generation deaf senior. "They just don't use them anymore."

In our new textbook, **A Journey into the Deaf-World**, Bob Hoffmeister, Ben Bahan and I have laid out these scientific and ethical issues and the response of the Deaf-World around the globe. I have written an article on the ethical problems in collaboration with a professional bioethicist, and the **Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal** will publish it in September. Ben Bahan and I [recently collaborated] on a rebuttal to articles in the medical literature by surgeon Thomas Balkany among others, approving the ethics and value of childhood implants. It contains the ethical and scientific arguments against programs of childhood cochlear implantation. We shall see if the medical journals are willing to publish dissenting voices on the issue.

So . . . if the Heitmans claim that 7-year-old Stephen was born deaf, received an implant at age 2, spoke fluently and read "three years above grade level," you would want to see objective scientific proof of that claim? Do you think that Kate and Peter Heitman were boasting to Marie Arana-Ward and that the truth might not be so glowing?

There are only three possibilities: (1) [Stephen] isn't really the star his parents claim. On a rigorous test of oral communication under controlled conditions he would perform like the typical born-deaf kid—badly. (2) He is very good at oral communication but that's because he acquired a lot of spoken language in the usual way by ear. It is rare that parents can affirm with certainty that their child was born profoundly deaf because it is only discovered usually around age 2—unless there was a deaf sibling or some reason to test the boy very early on. Even if the boy was profoundly deaf at age 2, he may have had a gradual hearing loss

or, indeed, sudden onset at age 2. (3) He was born profoundly deaf and he does have excellent oral communication and he is one remarkable exception to the published research. If there are such children—and no one can be really sure—they are very, very rare. For example, Indiana Medical School is doing research on "star performers" with implants and what it takes to get into their group is a mere 25% correct on word recognition, so you can imagine how rare 80 or 90% must be—if it occurs at all. So, if they tell inquiring parents that such an outcome may be possible but it is extremely rare, we don't know how to predict it, and thus they shouldn't expect it for their child, [that's the honest response].

"A journalistic tragedy"

May 21, 1997

Editor-in-Chief
The Washington Post

Dear Editor-in-Chief:

A journalistic tragedy occurred in your newspaper last May 11 when Marie Arana-Ward wrote a blatantly biased article on cochlear implants.

Ms. Arana-Ward inexplicably failed to write In her article about the bilingualism of Deaf people. Thousands of Deaf Americans like me use American Sign Language (ASL) and English in our everyday lives. For Deaf people, using ASL is not a political decision, but a biological one. They have full access to ASL, a visual-based language, through their eyes. Then, English is used as the language of our society. Although I repeatedly warned Ms. Arana-Ward in our interview and e-mail correspondence, she fell into a simplistic description of the Deaf Community: one group wears implants and the other group are radicals and militants. Reality is that most Deaf people are neither. They are bilinguals. Perhaps the most startling omission in her article was the very fact there are thousands of Deaf Americans who have captured life, liberty, and happiness without any form of amplification.

In the post years, there has been much media-hype about cochlear implants. Many Deaf people including myself who enjoy amplification have sifted through the cochlear implant research literature and have decided that hearing aids are still the most viable, effective, and safest form of amplification. Cochlear implant research is biased because, in many clinical studies, the barometer for success is speech development, not language development. This is similar to assessing parrots' speech. Ms. Arana-Ward ignores this important point.

Perhaps the most destructive by-product of cochlear implantation is the placement of implanted children in non-visual educational settings. That is, by and large, ASL is not taught to these children. Often speech development is emphasized at the expense of English language development. This sink-or-swim approach is sheer madness. I have seen too many children who have missed the window of opportunity for acquisition of English and ASL, and then suffer delayed language deficiencies. Some doctors may attribute this to the consequence of children and their families "not trying hard enough," but this is actually a result of visual language deprivation. Ms. Arana-Ward sidestepped this very important point.

It disturbs me greatly that this newspaper of great reputation has diminished itself in the past few years in its increasingly negative coverage of the Deaf Community and Gallaudet University. To maintain your reputation in "reporting facts," I welcome another interview by your staff, and this story should explore how Deaf people work, learn, play, travel, raise families, and select consumer products.

Sincerely,

James E. Tucker
Superintendent
Maryland School for the Deaf
Frederick, Maryland

A professor's comment

What a Deaf child needs is a teacher who TRULY believes, a program that is TRULY challenging, and a language that is TRULY accessible. If not ASL, what else?

Jay Innes
Gallaudet University

✏ Dr. Innes, an Associate Professor at Gallaudet University, added this "sound bite" to follow the copy of Suzy Rosen's letter distributed through E-mail.

Questions, Questions, and Questions . . .

Amplification of sounds has always played a very important role in the history of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people and the history of Deaf Educatlon. Thousands of Deaf people in this country, including students at MSD, wear hearing aids on a daily basis. Reasons for wanting amplification of sounds vary from individual to individual. Some wish to hear environmental sounds. Some, like myself, use amplification to boost our residual hearing when we lipread Spoken English. Some use amplification to listen and speak on the telephone or listen to the radio. There are also, of course, thousands of Deaf and successfully employed people who do not wish amplification because they feel it does not help them, or they feel it is distracting to their everyday information processing of the world.

Amplification technology has evolved much in the past 100 years, and it will of course continue to evolve in the future. Today, Deaf people's favorite amplification technology continues to be the hearing aid. It continues to be the most effective, safe, and reliable form of amplification for Deaf people everywhere. However, because hearing aids often do not produce normal hearing, cochlear-implant technology has emerged with the promise of improved aided audiograms and better speech-processor technology. This has become the amplification of choice, albeit a permanent one, for some parents of deaf infants, toddlers, children, and young adults.

This new "bio-technology" industry of cochlear implants has taken a stranglehold in certain hospitals and certain government agencies without a rigorous scientific review of implant technology by independent and unbiased parties. An overwhelming majority of "scientific" articles about implanted patients and their results are written by cochlear-implant manufacturers and surgeons themselves. After reading countless "scientific" articles over the years, [I have seen that] data collection in many of these articles is limited to an individual's ability to hear different decibel levels of sounds before and after the implant operation. In many of those articles, case studies are selected where a patient is now hearing "better" after the operation than before. Topics of utmost importance: language acquisition (American Sign Language, Spoken and Written English) cognitive development, and psychological and social development are entirely ignored,

"I know it doesn't make sense to believe that Arana-Ward is out to get Deaf people, yet she made such a biased botch of the story, it's hard to think of an explanation."

—

Harlan Lane

I have not yet read an article written by a cochlear-implant manufacturer or surgeon expounding on the shortcoming, of the implant technology or even total failures in increased hearing for certain implanted individuals. This is suspicious, because educators in the field of Deaf Education have firsthand experience with implanted children and youth who have stopped using devices connected to their cochlear implants a few years, or even a few months, after the operation. Families of deaf children and professionals working with Deaf people deserve to know why implants impact individuals differently. In other words, why do some implanted children improve their hearing, and why some do not.

In our quest for better understanding of the cochlear-implant technology, the mass media has further muddied our pursuit for facts by siding with cochlear-implant manufacturers and surgeons in glorifying this "cure" for "tragic deafness," and "enlightenment" for "poor, lost and uneducated deaf souls." Co-

chlear implants unfortunately have dominated "news about Deaf people" in the print media and certain television programs in the past few years, while ignoring stories of many, many, successful Deaf people who contribute much to the American society. Much-needed objective information on implant technology and its recipients, especially children, [is] lost when the mass media pits cochlear-implant manufacturers and surgeons against "deaf culture activists" that represent the "other side."

For example, a family of a deaf child may not benefit from a recent media offering, a televised debate between a cochlear-implant surgeon and a deaf-culture activist. The doctor explains his "own" unverified data that his implanted patients have improved hearing, and the deaf-culture activist draws a parallel between the cochlear-implant surgery and experiments performed on children in Germany during World War II.

Families of deaf children sorely need objective data and information relating to implant operations. Perhaps this is too much to ask from cochlear-implant manufacturers and surgeons when there are millions of federal dollars that are coming through the pipeline when, not if, the implant operating produce "positive" results.

It is with much hope that in the very near future, consumer organizations will take the lead in collecting data. This is undoubtedly an enormous task, since hospitals and school systems have access to implanted children, not consumer groups. However, consumer groups can force new research questions on the cochlear-implant industry. Instead of showcasing a few "star" implanted children, the industry must present data on all implanted children. Families want to know the odds of the operation. What is the success/failure rate? Even "star" patients must be scrutinized closely. Did they, for example, already have auditory and spoken skills before the operation? If so, then, the implant operation was not the reason for their "improved hearing," or "improved speech."

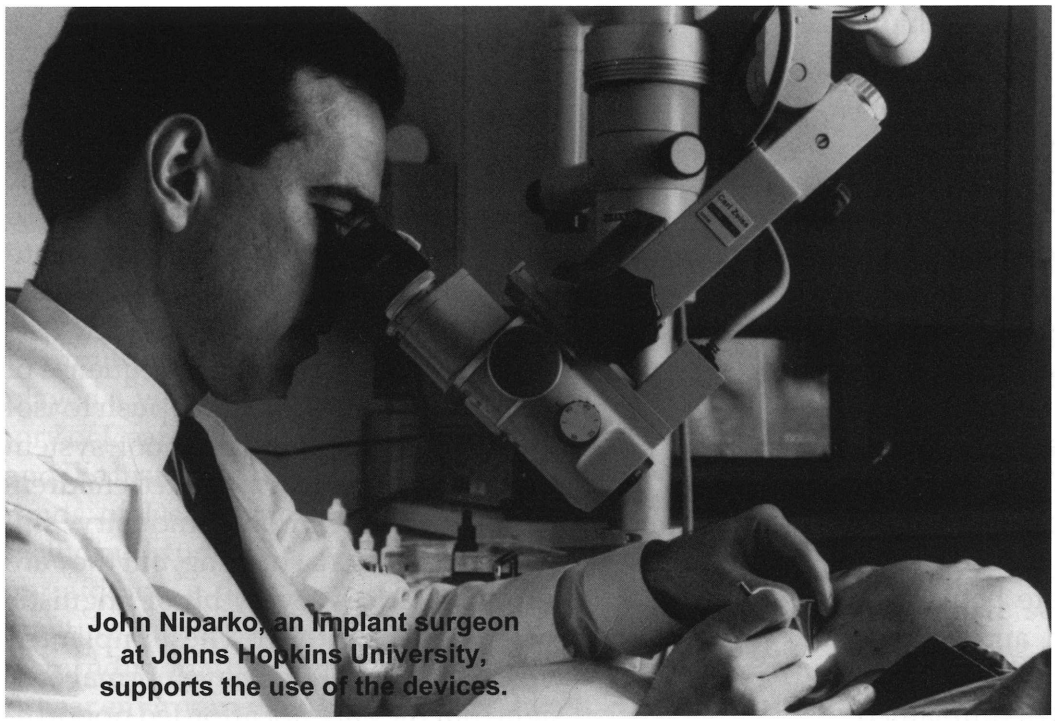
"We're not in business to serve the Deaf Culture," says Doug House, Cochlear Corp.'s audiologist. "That's not our constituency. Where the rubber meets the road is the hearing parent. That's whom we serve."

Families also deserve to know academic performances of implanted children. To simply hear better does not translate into a better understanding of an algebraic formula or a Shakespeare sonnet. Perhaps the most terrifying consequence of the implant operation is the push to isolate a child in a public-school system without interpreters. Implanted children, according to the implant industry, still do not have normal hearing, but they are forced to process every bit of linguistic information auditorily. These implanted children by and large have normal eyesight, but they are not afforded opportunities to process linguistic information visually.

Psychological and social factors also need to be addressed. There has been enough anecdotal evidence in the field of Deaf Education to suggest that there may be psychological trauma relating to the implant operation. Deaf children who were outgoing before the operation have become withdrawn end regressive after the operation. This anecdotal evidence has not yet been reported in the "scientific" articles by the implant industry.

Socialization of a child is one of our society's most important tasks. How will implanted children see themselves when they receive the implant, and when they grow to become adults? Where in their minds do they place themselves in their relationships with their family members, their community, and society at large? Issues of self-concept and self-esteem have not yet been addressed by the implant industry.

I attended a workshop on cochlear implants by a noted ENT doctor a few years ago. After explaining the technology and the implant procedure for one hour, he admitted that the implant technology is still in its infancy, like the Wright



John Niparko, an implant surgeon at Johns Hopkins University, supports the use of the devices.

Brothers airplane in aviation history. This revelation has created an analogy in my mind. I ask myself, "Do I want to fly to Paris from Baltimore Washington International airport in a Wright Brothers airplane, or do I want to ride in an ocean liner?" I pick an ocean liner any day, and my ocean liner is my hearing aid. My hearing aid is effective, safe, and reliable.

This Wright Brothers airplane will probably evolve into a space shuttle someday in the future. But, today is today, we must rigorously dissect the implant technology as it stands now; and we must understand what does this technology actually do to children? It is our responsibility to cut through the media hype, through biased research data, and ask demanding questions. Deaf children everywhere deserve straightforward answers.

—James E. Tucker

The author's response

✏ We contacted Marie Arana-Ward and asked if she had seen the copies of the letters objecting to her report. We asked if she was confident that the quotes were accurate, and if the report, as published, represented her honest assessment of the situation. Here's her response.

"It's our responsibility to cut through the media hype, through biased research data, and ask demanding questions."

—Jamie Tucker

July 17, 1997

Dear Mr. Moore,

I just received your fax today. I have seen no letters from Harlan Lane or James Tucker. Neither gave me the courtesy of a copy; if indeed they sent letters to our Executive Editor, Leonard Downie. Of course it would be inappropriate of me to respond to something I have not seen. I did see a letter from Suzy Rosen, which was not chosen among the numerous letters that were printed in the **Post**—from the Deaf as well as from medical people—in response to the piece. My article has little to do with my assessment of anything. It reports the Deaf community's statements to me about cochlear implants, and the medical community's cases as described to me by numerous doctors all over the country. My notes are well-documented and all quotations were exact. My reporting also included many, many conversations with cochlear implantees and their parents, only a fraction of which could be represented in the article. What was published was half the size of what was written—as you know, the issues are large and complex All statistics about the Deaf community, by the way, were taken from Harlan Lane's books.

Marie Arana-Ward
Deputy Editor, **Book World**
Feature Writer
The Washington Post

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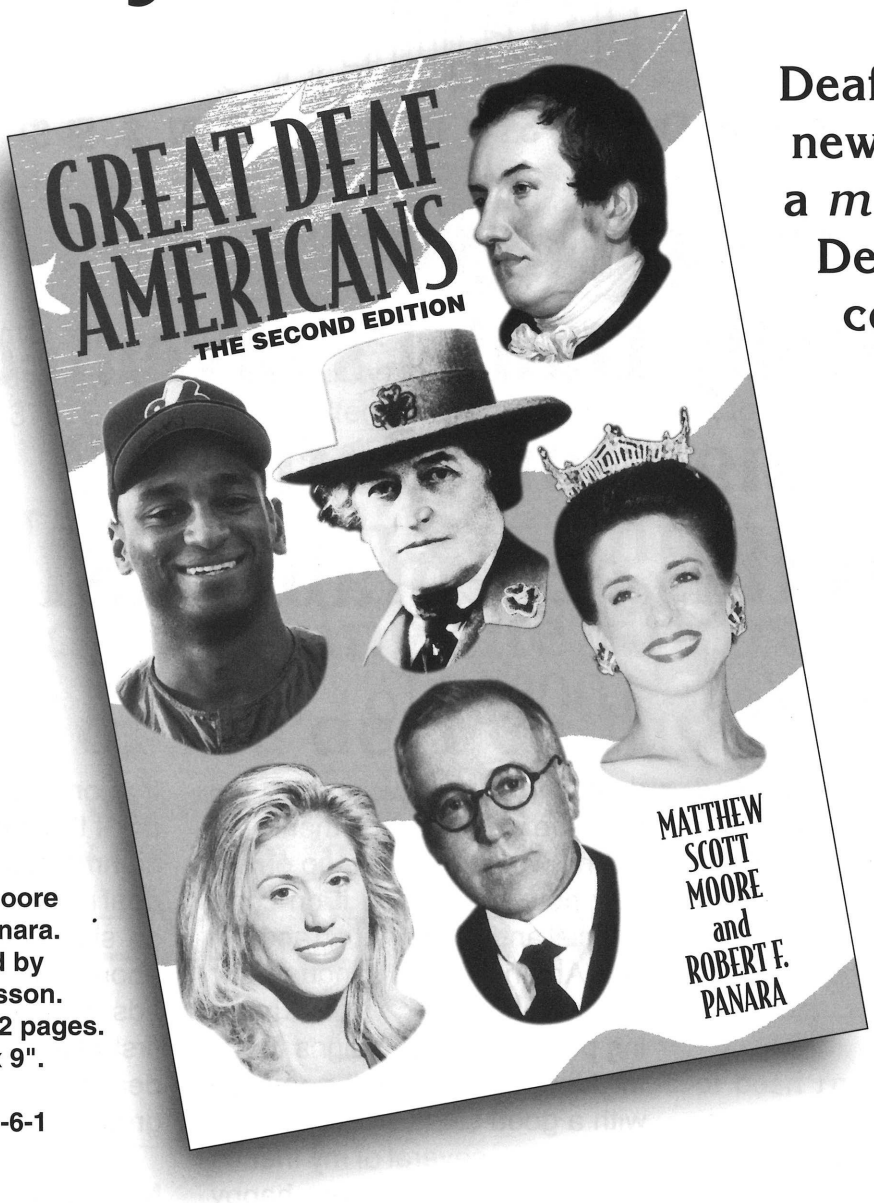

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READERS' RESPONSES

What do you think of Holly Daniel's invented sign for "Saturn"? Is this acceptable ASL?

0% Yes 100% No 0% Not sure

NO—We don't have that kind of ASL just make up sign language. She should return $10K to Saturn commercial 'cuz she is not honest and refuse to apologize to deaf community and Saturn.

NO—First, we don't need to be inventing signs. Fingerspelling handles the job beautifully. The Deaf usually use fingerspelling for brand names, anyway. Plus, Holly claims that fingerspelling S-a-t-u-r-n "takes too long." EXCUSE ME! This is only six letters! It takes maybe 3 seconds tops to fingerspell! Fingerspelling is one of the greatest bridges to literacy the Deaf have. Let's use it, not be afraid of it!

NO—I want to say that I really enjoyed the article that you wrote about Holly faking as a deaf person. I now understand how she was caught. I thank you for the wonderful write-up on it. I saw how she signed it on commercial and no, it's not an acceptable American Sign Language for Saturn. We will always have hearing people inventing signs for us thinking that we can't come up with a good signs.
By the way, several of my friends own Saturn and they are happy with it. Im sorry to see that Saturn had to pull out the ads. I hope they will reconsider promoting their car to our community using real Deaf owner.

NO—I find this unacceptable sign for Saturn. I would prefer spell it out. We don't even have the sign for our solar planet, Saturn. We spell it out.

NO—I think Holly's invented sign for Saturn is a joke. I could not believe when I saw her sign like that on TV. It made me wonder if the company who shoot commercial ever consult with deaf person who has authority on sign language. I feel bad about Saturn pulling out the ads. I wish Holly was honest first place and allowed a real deaf person do it. It would be a great one.

NO—It is a two-step backward for us. We will never have a good two-step foward. There is always something that put us Deaf people down or backward. One sour apple like Holly who is hearing acting like Deaf had hurt our chance to break into TV commercial business. I'll have to work twice as hard to show them that they can use Deaf actors.

Readers have asked us how many "Deafview" responses we get every month.
This month's total: 169

Deaf Life

READERS' VIEWPOINT

DEAFVIEW

DEAF LIFE would like to know what you think about major issues affecting the Deaf community. Fax your response to (716) 442-6371, E-mail us at deaflife@deaflife.com, **or** send it to us at Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380.

Is the cochlear implant destroying the future of the deaf culture?

(This question is repeated from last month as we want to get *more* responses.)

❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Not sure

Comments: _____

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Please respond promptly so that we can publish the results in the September issue.

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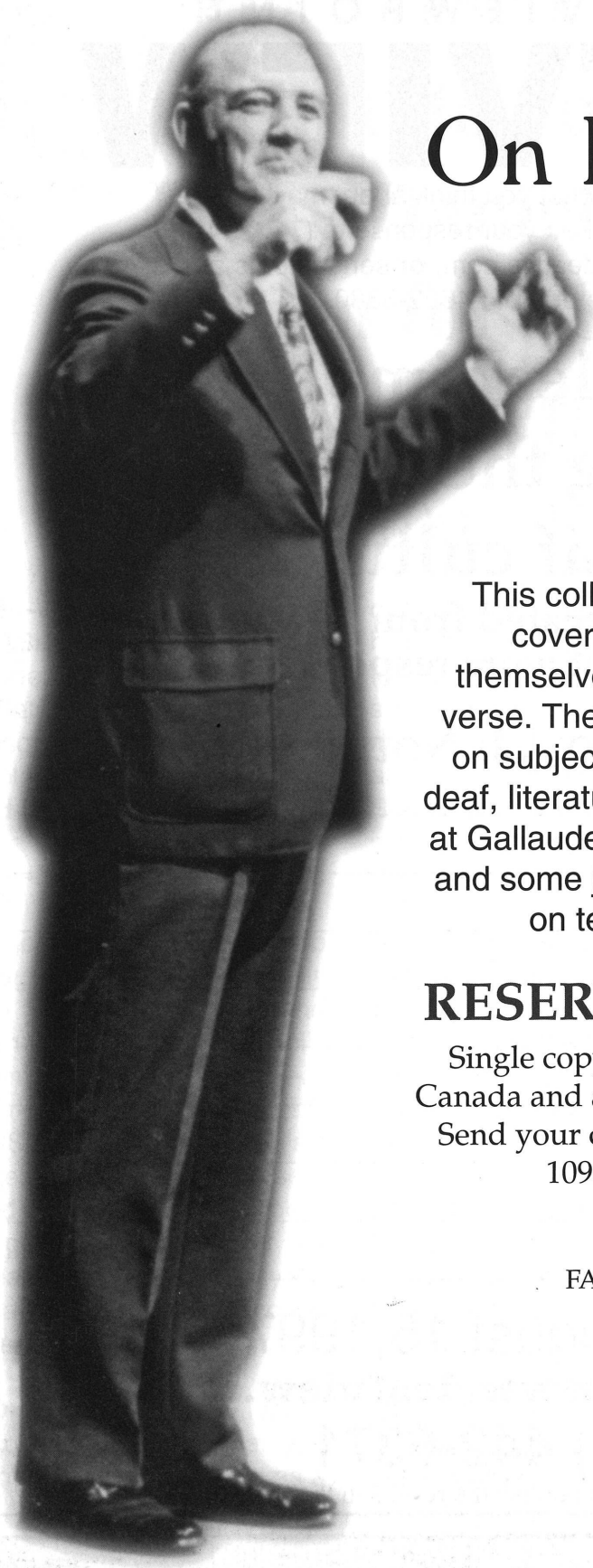

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AUGUST 1997

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• RELEASES • ANNOUNCEMENTS • UPCOMING EVENTS • LATE-BREAKING NEWS •

CONNECTICUT UPDATE: VICTORY!

The much-resented Executive Director of the state Commission on the Deaf & Hearing Impaired is out of the picture. Next step: getting a replacement who will truly represent and advocate for the Deaf Community.

On July 11, **Valerie Marino**, Executive Director of Connecticut's Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, was reassigned to work at the Department of Social Services. Marino, who had headed CDHI since 1995, had been the focus of the Deaf Community's protests for her poor leadership, poor advocacy programs, and oppressive attitude.*

Leaders from the Connecticut Association of the Deaf and other Deaf-oriented organizations formed a movement, "Time to Be Heard," which met with Marino on December 10, 1996, and presented her with a 10-point "Fact Sheet" highlighting areas of frustration and concern, especially the way she had been mishandling interpreter services and client confidentiality. TTBH gave her a vote of "no confidence" and demanded her resignation. She refused to heed the community's requests.

Meetings with high-level staffers from the Governor's office were held, but likewise yielded no results.

A protest rally was held at the State Capitol in Hartford on February 7, with over 250 people in attendance. Again, they expressed their grievances and demanded that Governor **John G. Rowland** take action regarding Marino. When this brought no immediate results, a large number of legislative members began to take note of Marino's incompetence. For example:

- Her failure to support the Bill of Rights for Deaf Children.
- Her failure to provide interpreters at the February 24 hearing when a large number of Deaf people showed up to express their views about the CDHI bill.
- Her "no-show" at the town meeting she scheduled with the Deaf Community.
- Her support of a long planned Bill #6709, unknown to anyone including the Commission staff, which would have eliminated direct interpreting services for the Deaf.

As result, Marino lost all credibility as the official advocate for the Deaf Community, and State legislators, who had became quite concerned, expressed great interest in hearing what the Deaf had to say regarding anything Marino attempted to do.

Jerry McCarthy, Time to Be Heard spokesman, met with TTBH members on the evening of Marino's reassignment. He expressed relief at having Marino out of the Deaf Community picture. This could have very positive consequences, among the Commission staffers and on their relationship with the Deaf Community. McCarthy said that he was looking forward to meeting with the CDHI Board members to discuss the selection of a new Commission director and future programs for Deaf citizens.

As of mid-July, **Stacie Eusko**, Interpreter Coordinator, is serving as Acting Executive Director. The TTBH Office asked for her plans and ideas for CDHI. She replied that she "will maintain what has been established." She had as yet received no information regarding the Governor's plans for appointing a new Executive Director.

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What we want:

Send us anything you think is appropriate. Items should be of national, not just local, interest. Typed articles with photos preferred. Photos, etc., will be returned on request. We reserve the right to reject or edit any material.

When we need it:

Please send material by the first of the month for publication the following month, with a 10-day grace period. (Items for November 1992 publication, for example, must be sent before October 10.) The earlier, the better. We will not accept any story more than 1 month old.

Where to send it:

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For **Express Mail** and **Federal Express**, please send to our office address: 1095 Meigs Street, Rochester, NY 14620.

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* See "Echoes of 'DPN' hit Hartford, lead story in the February "News Briefs," and "Connecticut update," April "News Briefs," pp. 3-7.

DAVID SCHULTZ, YOU'VE GOT COMPANY

Stacy Adams of California recently sued the YMCA, claiming she was fired from her job as a lifeguard because she's deaf. In suits filed in state and federal courts on July 11, she is seeking $2 million in actual damages and $10 million in punitive damages.

Adams, 21, became a certified lifeguard at the Los Altos YMCA near Long Beach in 1995, but was fired a year later. She told reporters that her deafness caused no job-related problems. She had been told that she was fired after the YMCA's headquarters in Chicago changed its policy on allowing deaf people to work as lifeguards.

Not surprisingly, a spokesman for the Los Altos YMCA said he couldn't comment on pending litigation, except to stress the YMCA's main concern was for the safety of its patrons. And, not surprisingly, **Marshall Caskey**, Adams' lawyer, replied, "All the scientific studies that have been done suggest that lifeguards who are hearing-impaired are perfectly good lifeguards."

The suit filed in federal court alleges the YMCA violated the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act by firing Adams in May 1996. Adams also sued the local YMCA in Los Angeles Superior Court, seeking unspecified damages, alleging it violated California's Fair Employment Act.

Adams, who also teaches swimming and is a certified emergency medical technician, wants the YMCA to reverse its policy on deaf lifeguards.

✏ **Editors' note:** Last year, we ran a cover story on **David Schultz** of Massachusetts, who sued the YMCA in a similar case. (See the April 1996 issue.) His firing and lawsuit prompted a grassroots letter-writing campaign. Deaf people, hard-of-hearing people, and hearing people responded, protesting Schultz's firing and condemning the YMCA's policy as discriminatory and misinformed. Several canceled their YMCA memberships. We didn't see *one* single letter that supported the YMCA's decision. Public opinion, at least among those who know, supports the right of deaf people to become lifeguards. But . . . is the YMCA going to change its policy?

(➤/Adapted from the article carried on NJ-L News; originally on Reuters wire service, July 11)

JUSTICE ON THE JURY

More deaf people are serving as jurors in New Jersey's Mercer County (which includes the state capital, Trenton). The software program known as Computer Assisted Real Time (CART) is enabling them to participate on juries. **Pat Wells**, jury manager for Mercer County, was quoted in a July 15 article by Staff Writer **Jeff Sagnip Hollendonner** in **The Times** (Trenton) as saying that more deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens could participate, but many still aren't aware that they can serve on a jury more easily than before. "There's a lot of people out there with hearing disabilities. We really could accommodate them with Real Time."

A deaf man in Marlton was summoned on July 14 as a potential juror in a child-custody case, but wasn't selected. He would continue to be in the jury pool for another week, though. Wells said, "The current potential juror who is deaf is excited to serve. Most people will bring a doctor's note." Acting Assignment Judge **Victor Friedman** would not allow photos of or interviews with the Marlton man. His name was withheld by **The Times**.

Friedman said, "We are fully aware of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We are going to make every reasonable accommodation for anyone with a disability."

Mercer County used a captioned juror-orientation video for the Marlton man. He then was permitted to look over the shoulder of the court reporter who used CART.

Norman Reim, a spokesman for the Department of Human Services, said courts basically have three options to accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing participants: a sign-language interpreter, amplification devices, and CART. Although sign-language interpreters have been available for courtroom situations for a number of years, many late-deafened and hard-of-hearing people don't sign or don't sign very well. If you don't have good receptive sign skills, you won't benefit much from having a sign-language interpreter. Amplification devices may be of little or no help to those with a severe or profound hearing loss. CART has the advantage of being accessible to just about everyone.

Philip Moos, 52, of West Trenton in Mercer County (of NJ-L News fame), is the current president of the New Jersey Association of the Deaf. He told Hollendonner that several years ago he too was called to perform jury duty.

As Hollendonner put it: "The prospect of having a deaf juror appeared to rattle the judge and attorneys from both the defense and the prosecution, who feared Moos would not be able to follow proceedings in deliberation. The judge, Moos said, thought the hand-signing interpreter could be a distraction in court, and balked at allowing a third party—an interpreter—into the jury room. The judge ultimately allowed Moos to be impaneled° because Moos appropriately answered all the lawyers' questions during the selection process."

Using an interpreter during Hollendonner's interview, Moos said he was glad to serve as a juror, and that the jury system is

opening up to accept deaf citizens: "I think it's great. The foreman set up rules that only one person could speak at a time."

Janet Dickinson, Director of Community Affairs at the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, told Hollendonner that the courts are finally allowing deaf citizens a voice in the jury system—which is only simple justice. "They are finally doing legally what they should have been doing [all along]. There are many hearing people who try to get out of jury duty. Deaf people want jury duty. It's been denied them for years and years." (➤/Freely adapted from the article carried on NJ-L News)

impaneled: to take one's place on a jury.

KNOCKING DOWN OBSTACLES

The Clare Boothe Luce Program of the Henry Luce Foundation has awarded grants totaling $2 million to fund two professorships, 15 fellowships, and 12 scholarships for women at 11 U.S. colleges and universities. The announcement was made by **Henry Luce III**, the foundation's chairman and CEO, on June 24.

With assets of more than $115 million, the program is unique in advancing the careers of women in science, engineering, and mathematics. Thus far, the program has supported more than 400 undergraduate students and more than 225 graduate fellows. There have been 57 Clare Boothe Luce Professors.

"These grants reflect the lifelong commitment of **Clare Boothe Luce** to encourage women to study, enter, and eventually teach in fields where they have been grossly underrepresented," said Henry Luce III. "She was always eager to consider new topics, test new hypotheses, and encourage other women to achieve their potential."

The grants have been awarded to:

Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts—One 5-year professorship in Environmental Geoscience ($377,268)

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena—Two 2-year graduate fellowships ($142,100)

The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia—Three 2-year graduate fellowships ($150,000)

Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut—Two 2-year undergraduate scholarships ($111,720)

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta—Four 2-year graduate fellowships ($181,040)

Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana—Four 2-year undergraduate scholarships staggered over 3 years ($167,256)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge—Six 1-year graduate fellowships over two years ($150,000)

National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York—Three 2-year undergraduate scholarships ($93,000) staggered over 3 years*

Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia—Two 2-year undergraduate scholarships ($77,414)

University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania—Three 2-year undergraduate scholarships staggered over 4 years ($106,356)

Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts—One 5-year professorship in Mathematics ($459,328)

Amherst, The College of William and Mary, Georgia Institute of Technology, Loyola, NTID, and the University of Scranton are first-time recipients of Clare Boothe Luce Program awards.

In addition to the above-mentioned colleges and universities which were invited to submit proposals for support, 13 other institutions named in Mrs. Luce's bequest are to receive funds in perpetuity. They are: Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts; Colby College, Waterville, Maine; Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska; Fordham University, Bronx, New York; Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.; Marymount University, Arlington, Virginia; Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts; St. John's University, Jamaica, New York; Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California; Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey; Trinity College, Washington, D.C.; University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana; Villanova Preparatory School, Ojai, California.

Background: The Clare Boothe Luce Program was established through a bequest from the widow of **Henry R. Luce**, co-founder of Time Inc. (now Time Warner) and editor-in-chief of **TIME**. Among her accomplishments, Mrs. Luce was a successful playwright, a World War 11 Life magazine reporter, the first woman elected to Congress from Connecticut, and a U.S. Ambassador to Italy. Her intention in establishing the program was "to encourage women to enter, study, graduate, and teach in fields where there have been obstacles to their advancement: physics, chemistry, biology, meteorology, engineering, computer science, and mathematics." Since 1989, the Clare Boothe Luce program has awarded more than $42 million to 92 American institutions.

The Henry Luce Foundation was established in 1936 by the late Henry R. Luce. With assets of more than $600 million, the foundation supports programs focusing on higher education, east Asia, American art, theology, public affairs, and women in science.

*See "A boost for (nontraditional) women, lead story in the July 1996 "News Briefs," and "'The best & the brightest'" in last month's "News Briefs," p. 7.

"A LONG & DISTINGUISHED TRACK RECORD": REDDING NAMED CCE DEAN

Dr. Reginald L. Redding

Dr. **Reginald L. Redding** has been appointed Dean of the College for Continuing Education at Gallaudet University, effective August 4. He will also have faculty status as an Associate Professor in the Department of Education in the School of Education and Human Services.

As CCE Dean, Redding will have responsibility for all CCE programs: Extension Programs, Summer Programs, Sign Language and Professional Studies, the Center on Global Education, University Conference Management, Distance Education, and five Gallaudet University Regional Centers. CCE collaborates, in partnership fashion, with academic departments, schools, and the Pre-College National Mission Programs, to provide conferences, continuing education, and professional studies to non-traditional students through non-traditional pedagogies and technologies. It serves about 50,000 persons annually.

Said Dr. **Roslyn Rosen**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, in her memorandum to the Gallaudet community announcing Redding's appointment on June 24: "Dr. Redding has a long and distinguished track record in the education of deaf students and community service. . . . The CCE has a long and distinguished service record at Gallaudet and is key to the University Outreach mission. I am confident that Dr. Redding will do very well in facilitating, enhancing, and leading Gallaudet's outreach programs on behalf of our students and global deaf community."

Dr. Redding received a B.A. degree in American Studies in 1979 from Gallaudet College, M.A. degrees in Deaf Education from Western Maryland College (1982) and in Educational Administration and Supervision from CSUN (1985), and a doctorate in Special Education Administration from Gallaudet University (1995).

His career spans a wide range of administrative and instructional positions in various educational settings, from elementary schools to higher education. He has previously served as the Director of Education/Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, Faribault; Director of Educational Support Services/Assistant Superintendent, Lexington School for the Deaf; and Assistant Principal for Administration, MSSD.

At the time of his appointment, he was Director of the Center for Student Resources at the NTID and the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at RIT. As a member of the management team, he provided overall management and leadership to a variety of academic and non-academic programs for traditional and non-traditional students, working with faculty and staff, to effect seamless collaborative efforts among different divisions and programs. He provided leadership for establishing The Learning Consortium/ Learning Center, which includes tutorial services, distance education, a smart classroom, and a computer lab, in collaboration with all seven centers of NTID. He also provided leadership for the implementation of NTID's strategic plan for his Center and to standing committees on student retention, non-traditional learning methodologies, and minority students. He held a faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor with the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies at NTID.

Redding's service to the field is recognized nation-wide. He chairs the Council on Education of the Deaf Committee on Professional Preparation and Certification and co-chairs the CEASD Ethnic and Multicultural Concerns Committee. He has contributed significantly to the leadership of national conferences and seminars addressing issues related to education, multiculturalism, and professional standards.

MATTHEWS MOVES UP

Eileen T. Matthews has been named Special Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Gallaudet University for the 1997-1998 academic year. Her appointment was announced on June 26 by Dr. Rosen and became effective August 1.

As Special Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Matthews assumes responsibility for coordinating departmental program reviews, assisting the Division of Academic Affairs to articulate and implement strategic-objective planning and continuing quality improvement, assisting Academic Affairs to implement diversity-related goals, and facilitating cross-divisional collaborations.

Matthews has been on the Gallaudet faculty since 1982, and is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of English. She chaired the Department of Technical Studies at Gallaudet's now-closed Northwest Campus and served as Assistant Dean of the School of Preparatory Studies for two semesters. She also served as a member of the Program Review Guidelines Task Force and chaired the Honors Program Review process. At the time of her appointment, she was Special Assistant to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

She led efforts to establish 2-year degree programs in the now-defunct School of Preparatory Studies, and the Summer Visiting Student program here. She chairs the Diversity Committee of the Council on Undergraduate Education, and coordinated "Dialogues for Diversity," a program held in

April 1995. Her other service to the University includes four years as a member of the University Faculty Senate and three years on the Enrollment Planning Committee. She has been involved with the mentoring program and Enrichment Day, and has served as faculty advisor to the Black Deaf Student Union.

In 1994, she received the National Black Deaf Advocates' Andrew Foster Deaf Advocate of the Year award. (➢)

GUAA GOINGS-ON

GUAA celebrates DPN's 10th: The Gallaudet University Alumni Association Board of Directors, which meets twice a year—October (Homecoming) and April (Charter Day)—will hold its Spring 1998 meeting on March 13 to coincide with the 10th Anniversary Deaf President Now Celebration.

The annual GUAA and Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund Awards, normally presented at the Charter Day Banquet and Awards Program in April, will be presented at a celebration luncheon/banquet on March 14. Six awards will be presented:

The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award: To an alumnus who has left the University within the past 15 years for notable achievements that bring favorable recognition to Gallaudet University.

The Pauline "Polly" Peikoff Service to Others Award: To a hearing or deaf person from within the Deaf community who has contributed, beyond normal expectations, his or her time in service to others.

Laurent Clerc Award: For outstanding social contributions by a deaf person.

Alice Cogswell Award: For valuable service on behalf of deaf citizens.

Edward Miner Gallaudet Award: To an international or national deaf or hearing leader working to promote the well-being of deaf people worldwide.

Amos Kendall Award: To a deaf person for notable excellence in a professional field not related to deafness.

Know someone who deserves it? Nominations for these awards are welcome from GUAA chapters, alumni, and anyone else. A rationale and supporting data for each person nominated are required. Send all nomination materials to the GUAA Executive Director, Peikoff Alumni House, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002-3695.

Triennial Reunion at Homecoming: The GUAA's 36th Triennial Reunion will be held October 7-11, 1998, in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center. This is the second time the GUAA will host its triennial reunion in the fall in conjunction with Homecoming weekend.

Some of the major activities scheduled during the reunion are: Golden and Silver Anniversary Reunions for the Classes of 1948 and 1973; Hall of Fame program, sponsored by the Athletics Department; Greek Conclaves; Alumni Affinity mini-reunions; class reunions, banquet and awards program; and the traditional football, volleyball, and soccer games, along with other related Homecoming activities.

Daphne Cox McGregor ('82), Assistant Director in the Office of Alumni Relations, is now recruiting interested alumni and others to be a part of the GUAA Reunion Planning Committee to serve in different capacities as chairpersons. There will be regular reunion-planning committee meetings to exchange various committee status reports and make necessary decisions. In addition to the Planning Committee, volunteers are also needed to serve on one or more committees: registration, bookkeeping, housing/meals/logistics, GUAA-related activities, special events, program book/public relations, fundraising, banquet/program, photography, and student volunteers.

For more information, contact McGregor at ☎(202) 651-5081 ❒(202) 651-5062 (FAX); ❖dcmcgregor@gallua.gallaudet.edu (E-mail).

Graduate fellowships awarded: Since 1968, Gallaudet University's Graduate Fellowship Fund has provided financial assistance to 130 deaf and hard-of-hearing students pursuing further education at institutions outside Gallaudet. The GFF, like the Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (see following item), was established with money from GCAA/GUAA's half-million-dollar Centennial Fund. Its principal is an endowment that also received monies for specially designated fellowship funds within the general fund.

Seventeen people have received GFF awards for the 1997-1998 academic year. Each recipient is enrolled in doctoral or terminal studies at an accredited university.

Want to apply? To be eligible for the fellowships, applicants must be deaf or hard-of-hearing, be admitted to an accredited graduate program, carry a full-time semester load, and have a need for financial assistance. Fellowships are awarded on an annual basis. Initial awards may be renewed for the duration of the course of study and for dissertation expenses provided that the holder of the award maintains scholastic standards. The deadline for completing GFF applications is April 20.

The GFF Committee consists of seven members. It's currently chaired by Dr. **Nancy Evans Kensicki** ('65 & G-'67). Additional information and applications may be obtained by writing to the GFF Committee, Peikoff Alumni House, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-3695.

The award recipients for the 1997-1998 academic year are:*

Continuing Applicants

Joseph Castronovo ('74), who is studying for a Ph.D. in Language, Reading, & Culture at the University of Arizona.

Simon Guteng ('89 & G-'92), who is studying for a Ph.D. in Special Education at the University of Arizona.

Christopher Krentz, who is studying for a Ph.D. in English at the University of Virginia.

Marlon Kuntze ('75), who is studying for a Ph.D. in

Language, Literacy, & Culture in Education at Stanford University.

Dawn Rastetter, who is studying for a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the Ohio State University.

Ann Silver ('72), who is studying for a Ph.D. in Deaf Art and Deaf Studies at the Union Institute.

Jason Sobel, who is studying for a Medical Degree at Boston University.

Kirstin Wolf, who is studying for a J.D. in Law at the University of Michigan.

Amy Yanoff, who is studying for a J.D. in Law at the University of California, Berkeley.

New Applicants

Rain Bosworth, who is studying for a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology at the University of California, San Diego.

Bridget Carty (G-'93), who is studying for a Ph.D. in History of the Deaf Community at Griffith University.

Lionel Chew, who is studying for a Ph.D. in Sociology at Stanford University.

Laurene Gallimore, who is studying for a Ph.D. in Language, Reading, & Culture at the University of Arizona.

Godwin Imandeh, who is studying for a Ph.D. in Entomology at the University of Wales.

Richard Lawrence, who is studying for a Medical Degree at the Morehouse School of Medicine.

Karen Sadler, who is studying for a Ph.D. in Science in Education at the University of Pittsburgh.

Erin Wiggins, who is studying for a MBA/MS at Temple University.

*Gallaudet College/University alumnae and alumni are denoted by their class years (in parentheses).

LCCF grants awarded: The GUAA's Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (LCCF) promotes projects and activities for the cultural enrichment of deaf people. The LCCF may be devoted to programs such as endowments of awards, community leadership, dramatics, educational programs, information media, literature, memorials, motion picture and television production, talent bureau, and research relating to deafness. Since 1968, the fund has provided financial support to over 80 projects totaling almost $150,000 through interest earned on its principal.

Several people received LCCF grants for 1996-97. Each has been utilizing the grant for his/her cultural-related project in accordance with LCCF criteria. Six of this year's recipients were:

Joseph Castronovo, Jr., '74 of Tucson, Arizona ($1,500), worked on a half-hour film, ***The Sign of Artistic Signatures***. His project focused on European manual alphabets on artwork during the Medieval and Renaissance periods. Students in art classes at the Arizona School for the Deaf in Tucson correlated new artwork with their abilities to express themselves as storytellers, readers, and writers.

Gerard Kennedy ('80) of Belleville, Ontario, Canada ($507), coordinated the Samuel Greene Monument Restoration Project. The Belleville Association of the Deaf raised funds to restore a damaged historical monument honoring **Samuel Greene**, Ontario's first Deaf teacher. He was a member of the Class of 1870 at Gallaudet College (then known as "National Deaf-Mute College"). The restored monument and commemorative plaque were dedicated in June at Mr. Greene's burial site in Belleville Cemetery.

Pamela Baldwin (AAS-'93) of Washington, D.C. ($1,310), is an historian for the National Deaf Black Association researching African-American Deaf History. She will use the grant to collect and document photographs and materials that reflect the African-American Deaf experience.

Odutola Odusanya ('85) of Nigeria ($2,000 from the LCCF Book Fund), used his grant to purchase cultural-enrichment materials for the deaf children at the Model School for the Deaf, Abeokute, Ogun State of Nigeria, Africa.

Tim McCarty of Lanham, Maryland ($900), heads a nonprofit company, Quest Arts for Everyone. Its mission is to use the arts to promote understanding among all peoples and excellence in schools and the workplace, and to enable "marginalized" persons to realize their full potential. Quest was enabled to conduct summer institutes in the arts for young people, to establish teacher-training institutes to provide teachers with arts training and guidance in developing ongoing, quality arts programs in their schools, and to work with deaf artists to create new works in the artistic-production process.

Dr. **Barbara Kannapell** ('61) of Washington, D.C. ($1,000), is working on a research project, "Deaf Americans on the Home Front: The Forgotten Americans." She's constructing the social history of Deaf Americans in World War II and documenting Deaf Americans' rightful place in the mainstream history of the war. As an outcome of this project, a one-hour documentary film, a book of resource materials, and a CD-ROM will be developed and produced.

Want to apply? The Laurent Clerc Cultural Committee, currently chaired by **Carlene Thumann-Prezioso** ('80 & G-'84), consists of seven members. For additional information and applications, contact the LCCF Committee, Peikoff Alumni House. LCCF grant-application deadlines are October 1 and April 1.

CHRONICLING OUR COMMUNITY

The American Annals of the Deaf celebrated its 150th anniversary during the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf/Conference of Educational Administrators Serving the Deaf (CAID/CEASD) convention beginning at the end of July in Hartford. Gallaudet University, the American School for the Deaf, and NTID held a reception at the Old State House in Hartford on June 30 to mark this very special anniversary.

The special 150th anniversary issue of the **Annals** was presented at the convention. It surveys the last 150 years of

the state of the art in education for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. Where have we been? Where are we going?

For subscription information, contact **Marteal H. Pitts**, ❖mpitts@gallua.gallaudet.edu. The Annals also is on the World Wide Web: ✷http://www.gallaudet.edu/~pcnmpaad/index.html. The AAD website offers abstracts of the 150th anniversary issue. There is also a multi-year index, information on CAID and CEASD, guidelines for submitting articles, an online order form, and information on advertising.

Also at the convention, Pre-College National Mission Programs hosted a breakfast; all were welcome. Gallaudet University President **I. King Jordan**, Vice President for Pre-College National Mission Programs **Jane Kelleher Fernandes**, and Western Oregon University deaf-education program coordinator Lauren Gallimore spoke. All breakfast attendees received a copy of the video ***Reading to Deaf Children, Learning from Deaf Adults***, in exchange for agreeing to evaluate it.

UNLEARNING "LEARNED HELPLESSNESS"

Kristina English has a message for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing: Stand up for your rights.

English, a Central Michigan University audiologist, says many deaf and hard-of-hearing students leave high school without knowing their legal rights or who is responsible for protecting their rights in a work or college setting. Many are not aware that they are eligible for financial and technical assistance.

"Many students with hearing impairments are at risk following high school because they do not know how to advocate for themselves," says English, who surveyed deaf and hard-of-hearing college students about their social skills and knowledge of disability law. "They may realize they need technical assistance in a job or college classroom, but they don't know how to assert themselves to find and use it. They lack a sense of community because they don't know how to develop a support group."

The result is a high drop-out rate for students who enroll in college. English found that 71% of deaf and hard-of-hearing students drop out of college, compared to 41% for students without disabilities.

She has written a textbook to help high-school students make the transition from the classroom to life after graduation. **Self Advocacy for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing** reviews their legal rights and teaches personal and interpersonal skills to help them protect those rights.

Deaf and hard-of-hearing students in elementary and secondary school are supported by special educators, audiologists, speech-language pathologists, notetakers, interpreters, and others. They often receive assistive devices, specialized coursework, speech and hearing therapy and one-on-one instruction. English says that these supports are guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

"Students can be called passive consumers of these services because they are provided in response to needs identified by parents, educators, and professionals rather than in response to concerns identified by the learners themselves. When students graduate from high school, this safety net is pulled out from under them. Their civil rights are still protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act and other laws, but the burden of responsibility shifts to the individuals with disabilities. I've found that graduating high-school seniors who are deaf or hard-of-hearing are typically unprepared to assume the responsibility of advocating for their own needs."

Many students who are accepted into college or find employment after high school are prepared academically but not socially. They too often have difficulty making the transition from high school to college or work life. "With all of the best of intentions, we have promoted learned helplessness. We do things for everybody. For instance, hearing aids come in all different sizes and take batteries of different sizes. All too often an 18-year-old will not know the size of the battery needed for his or her hearing aid because someone else changed the batteries all the time."

Many types of assistance are available. Universities offer a variety of assistive devices, including wireless systems in which classroom instruction is carried from a microphone attached to the instructor to a behind-the-ear instrument worn by the student. Universities also offer note-taking arrangements, sign-language interpreters, and closed-captioning.

Employers also are likewise required by law to accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing workers.

Background: English is a member of CMU's Communications Disorders faculty. CMU is one of four universities in the nation that offer the professional Doctorate of Audiology degree. The Au.D. program works closely with CMU's audiology clinic, which has offered hearing services to Michigan residents for more than 25 years.

— Mike Silverthorn

"THE TOP OF THE LIST"

Carl Frels, an instructor at Scranton State School for the Deaf, was recently honored along with other colleagues for achieving the milestone of 15 years of service to SSSD students.

"Mr. Frels has made significant contributions during his time as a faculty member here at SSSD," said Dr. **Dorothy S. Bambach**, SSSD Superintendent. "In addition to teaching Mathematics and Deaf Studies courses, Mr. Frels has held the positions of Junior National Association for the Deaf advisor, head basketball coach, and student-government advisor. He is a person who places our SSSD students at the top of his list!"

Another of Frel's accomplishments was his participation in a year-long international teacher-exchange program with the Victorian School for the Deaf in Melbourne, Australia. In the program, Frels and a teacher from the Victorian School

The well-traveled teacher: Dr. Dorothy S. Bambach, SSSD Superintendent, and Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Eugene W. Hickok present Carl Frels, SSSD instructor (right), with a plaque recognizing his 15 years of service.

exchanged places, apartments, and classes for one year. This proved to be a challenging and exciting experience for both teachers since the sign-language systems in each country are quite different.

AIDB ONLINE!

The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind has set up two new sources of information services and job vacancies. Visit its new Website, ✱http://www.aidb.state.al.us, for a tour of AIDB programs and services. Or—for more information on position openings—call the AIDB Job Line at ☎(205) 761-3382.

Background: AIDB is the world's most comprehensive education and service program for deaf and blind children and adults. Established in 1858, AIDB includes three Talladega-based instructional programs, including the Alabama School for the Deaf, Alabama School for the Blind, and the Helen Keller School of Alabama, which serves deaf-blind and multihandicapped students aged 3-21. ASD and ASB are accredited at state, regional, and national levels.

AIDB's E. H. Gentry Technical Facility provides rehabilitation and vocational-training services to deaf and blind adults. The Alabama Industries for the Blind, a diverse and award-winning manufacturing facility, is one of the country's largest employers of blind people.

A statewide network of regional programs extends early-intervention, community, and aging services to persons of all ages through eight AIDB Centers in Auburn, Birmingham, Dothan, Huntsville, Mobile, Montgomery, Muscle Shoals, and Tuscaloosa.

COMING UP: DEAF AWARENESS

The following presentations in the Deaf Awareness Programs/Public Library Schedule, Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan Area, will be held at various locations. The first three are on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Arlington County Public Library, Auditorium, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia. They're co-sponsored by Friends of Arlington County Public Library and the Arlington County Disability Advisory Commission.

- **Rosemary Ann Stifter**, "The Deaf Advantage: Scuba Diving," September 15.
- **Stephen T. Williams**, "Deaf Pilots in Virginia!", November 10.
- **Patricia Gaither Beech**, "Laurent Clerc and Deaf Humor," December 8.

For more information, contact **Neil Phelps**, Outreach Librarian, ☎(703) 358-6320 (TTY); ☎(703) 358-5988 (Voice).

These presentations in the series will be held in New Carrollton and Washington:

- **Alfred Sonnenstrahl**, "Humor in the Nineteenth Century," Monday, December 8, 7:00 p.m., Prince George's County Memorial Library System, New Carrollton Branch Library, 7414 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, Maryland. Contact: **Doris Goodlett**, Associate Director of Branch Services, (301) 699-9113 (TTY/Voice).
- "Celebrate Deaf Diversity!" (with local authors), Tuesday, December 9, 12:00-5:00 p.m., District of Columbia Public Library, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Room A-5, 901 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Contact: **Janice Rosen**, Librarian for the Deaf Community, ☎(202) 727-2145 (TTY/Voice). Co-sponsored by Friends of the D.C. Public Library Services to the Deaf Community.

Friends of the Library groups and deaf/disability organizations within the Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan area are invited to be co-sponsors with public libraries for presenting a local Deaf Awareness program to the public during 1997-98. Interested? Contact:

Deaf Literacy Support Group
Attention: **Alice L. Hagemeyer**
2930 Craiglawn Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904-1816
☎(301) 572-5168 (TTY); ❒(301) 572-4134 (FAX)
❖alhagemeyer@juno.com

The Deaf Literacy Support Group is sponsored by the Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Silver Spring.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, & FESTIVALS

MDAD CONFERENCE: FUN & BUSINESS

The Maryland Association of the Deaf is holding its 35th Biennial Convention August 14-17, in Solomons. Co-chairs are **Astrid Goodstein** and **Sean Markel**. The convention kicks off with a President's Reception with **Charles Giansanti** on Thursday evening, August 14. The exhibits, arranged by **Jerry Nelson**, will be open to the conventioneers during the day on Friday and Saturday.

Harvey Goodstein will be the master of ceremonies for the Awards Luncheon on Friday, August 15. Dr. **Frank R. Turk**, Special Assistant for Development at the NAD, and a prominent leader and advocate, will give the keynote address after the luncheon.

MDAD awards, including the Distinguished Service Award and President's Award, as well as Certificates of Appreciation, will be presented at the luncheon. For the Distinguished Service Award, nominations are being taken for a person—not a MDAD officer—who deserves recognition for serving deaf and hard-of-hearing Marylanders in an exemplary and outstanding manner. In your nomination, please describe the major contributions s/he has made to the Deaf community in Maryland. All nominations should be sent to **Adele K. Shuart**, 8585H Falls Run Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043; ❒(410) 465-0255 (FAX).

Membership meetings: On both Friday and Saturday afternoons, there will be business meetings. Officers and committee chairs will give brief reports. **Patsy Bowman**, Administrative Specialist for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons in the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities, has been invited to speak on various issues she has been involved with.

Dr. **Ronald E. Nomeland**, chair of the bylaws committee, notes that a few proposed amendments to the bylaws have been drawn up. The proposals were printed in the **MDAD News**, sent to all MDAD members in good standing.

Elections: On the afternoon of Saturday, August 16, there will be an election for the following positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Member at Large, and Auditing Committee Member. Anyone who is interested in running for these positions should contact **Ausma Smits**, chair, Nominations Committee, at ☎(301) 577-3437 (TTY), or ❖asmits@juno.com (E-mail).

Friday Night Live! During the night, in conjunction with DJ, MDAD will hold both a live and a silent fundraising auction, to assist with MDAD's goals. Consider donating something of value for the MDAD to auction off at the convention. It can be something that you made, or something that you no longer need. You could donate a gift certificate stating you will host a candlelight gourmet dinner, give personal lessons on how to play golf, or invite the winner to spend a weekend at your second home. Other items such as handmade crafts, relatively new books, memorable items, and antiques are certainly welcome.

Phil Aiello will serve as auctioneer. If you wish to donate something, contact **Mo Aiello** at ☎(301) 871-2983 (TTY) or ❒(301) 598-0833 (FAX). She will coordinate items for both live and silent auction. Just let her know what item(s) you will be donating and whether you will bring them to Solomons. Also please give an estimated value of each item. Remember: all donations are tax-deductible.

Glitz! There will be a dinner show, the Miss Deaf Maryland Pageant, on Saturday night to conclude the convention. The three contestants for the title of Miss Deaf Maryland are **Melissa Lynn McClain** from Libertytown, **Viola Rose Mohr** from Dundalk, and **Heather Michelle Villalba** from Lanham. All three are blue-blooded Marylanders, born and raised in Maryland. McClain and Mohr attended the Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick; Villalba went to Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt. Let's show our support for these young women!

David A. Martin will be the master of ceremonies. Special performers will showcase their talents: **Gil Eastman**, **Bill Ennis**, **Kevin Smith**, and former Miss Deaf Maryland **Roberta Mather**.

Town Meeting: Now that the MDAD-PCRID's joint committee on interpreting issues has been established, one of its first tasks is to identify and prioritize interpreting issues that deserve in-depth discussion and prompt resolution. The committee will host a town meeting at the upcoming convention of each organization. Two committee members, MDAD's **Jim Bishop** and PCRID's **Gary Morin**, will be the co-facilitators of the town meeting. The interpreting issues previously identified at SYMPO '96 could be looked at to determine whether they have been resolved. The joint committee will then make arrangements for an all-day open forum on specific interpreting issues.

Workshops/presentations: Gilbert C. Eastman, "ASL: Signs of the Past and Present;" **Pamela Baldwin**, "Black Deaf History: A Visual Exhibit;" Philip Aiello and Myrna Orleck-Aiello, "Everything You Want to Know about Computers and Technology but are Afraid to Ask!!!"; Jim Bishop and **Nancy Siedman**, Governor's Advisory Board for Telecommunication Relay Forum; **Donna Walters** and **Ethelette Ennis**, "Health Care: Where Is It Going?"; **Willis J. Mann** and **Randy Murbach**, "Maryland Relay: New 1997 Features and Services;" Jim Bishop and Gary Morin, "MDAD-PCRID Committee on Interpreting Issues;" **Jill Sege**, "Never Heard of Your Legal Rights? Lost You!"; **Ronald E. Sutcliffe**, Panel Discussion on Diverse Cultures; **Lindsay Dunn**, "Profiles of the Deaf Community in the 21st Century;" Randy Murbach and Willis J. Mann, "Video Relay Interpreting (VRI): A New Horizon Ahead for Maryland Relay;" **David S. Birnbaum**, "Video Remote Interpreting: Helping to Solve the National Crisis;" **James E. Tucker**, "War of Words."

For a copy of registration form, details on fees, and addi-

tional information, contact Astrid Goodstein, ☎(301) 572-4759 (TTY/evenings only); ❒(202) 651-5632 FAX; ❖aagoodstein@gallua.gallaudet.edu (E-mail); and Sean Markel, ☎(301) 490-7828 (TTY), ❒(301) 490-1293 FAX; ❖llsmarkel@gallua.gallaudet.edu. **Helena Schmitt** will be serving as registrar.

For accommodation information, call the Holiday Inn Select Solomons reservations desk at ☎1-800-356-2009 or ☎(410) 326-3289 via Maryland Relay Service, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

NONPROFIT NETWORKING: BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Management of Nonprofit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People, a 3-day conference, will be held at Cheyenne Mountain Conference Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado, from Thursday, November 20 to Saturday, November 22.

This is a follow-up to the *Management of Nonprofit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing* National Conference held in Minneapolis last year. (It's back by popular demand!)

With the growing demands placed on the nonprofits in the U.S., there has never been an opportunity for those who work in nonprofit organizations specifically designed for deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers, to get together and learn, network, and share information. If you're an Executive Director, Board Member, or staffer, this will give you the opportunity to learn about the functions of the nonprofit and how it's become a unique sector.

At Cheyenne Mountain you will have the opportunity to find those private moments that will release your mind and spirit from day-to-day concerns and experience the great expanse of the gateway to the Rocky Mountain high country. Dramatic views of Cheyenne Mountain can be seen from many vantage points throughout the resort.

Early-bird discounts are available on registration fees. For maximum discount, your registration be postmarked before September 15.

Keynote: "The Current Trends of Nonprofit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People," Dr. **Patty Hughes**, Business Development Office, Communication Service for the Deaf

Other presentations:

"How and Why? A Success Story," **Marilyn Smith**, Executive Director, Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services

"Strategic Planning," **Rex Moers**, Executive Director, Pikes Peak Center on Deafness

"Relationships with Board Members," **Kay Vincent**, Executive Director, Deaf Community Services of San Diego, Inc.

"Legal Issues in Nonprofit Organizations," **Bobbi Cordano**, Assistant Attorney General, Charities Division of the Minnesota Attorney General's Office

"How to Fundraise and Market for the Nonprofit Organizations," Dr. **Pat Johansen**, Associate Professor, School of Management, Gallaudet University

There will be meetings of special-interest groups. Entertainment will be provided by **Jo Walcott**.

For more information, contact:

Gallaudet University Regional Center
Ohlone Community College
43600 Mission Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94539
☎(510) 659-6050 (TTY)
☎(510) 659-6268 (TTY/Voice)
❒(510) 659-6033 (FAX)
❖gurcohlone@gallua.gallaudet.edu (E-mail)

BRIEFLY NOTED

➨ "Silent Partners," a tennis extravaganza, is being held on August 9 in Portland, Oregon, as part of 30th anniversary of the American Society for Deaf Children's 30th-anniversary celebration. It's designed to raise awareness about deafness and support the ASDC's many programs and services. Contact ASDC at ☎1-300-942-ASDC (2732); ☎(916) 482-0120 (TTY/Voice); ❒(916) 482-0121 (FAX); ❖ASDC1@aol.com (E-mail).

➨ The Frederick (Maryland) Chapter of the American Sign Language Teachers Association is sponsoring a workshop on "How to teach ASL Classifiers" on Saturday, September 13, at the Frederick Community College Library Building, Frederick, Maryland. Contact FASLTA, c/o **Jackie Kanekuni**, Deaf Access Services, Inc., P.O. Box 3104 Frederick, MD 21705-3104. Or call Jackie Kanekuni at ☎(301) 696-1550 (TTY).

➨ Sign Choir Festival '97 will be held on September 27 in the Dallas Convention Center in Texas. Contact: **Becky Sue Parton**, Director, Sign Music Foundation, 1610 E. McKinney #1901, Denton, TX 76201 ☎(817) 484-8550 (TTY); ☎❒(817) 383-0527 (Voice/FAX); ❖SignMF@aol.com.

➨ The 9th annual ALDAcon—the international convention of the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA)—will be held October 15-19 at the Radisson Aventura Beach Resort, North Miami Beach, Florida. Contact: ALDA, 10310 Main Street, Box 274, Fairfax, VA 22930, or call the ALDA Hotline at ☎(404) 289-1596 (TTY) or fax ❒(404) 284-6862.

➨ "Coming Together with P.R.I.D.E. for our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Nevada" will be held October 24-26, in Reno, Nevada. Contact: **Michele G. Berke**, Director. Gallaudet University Regional Center, Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94539; ☎(510) 659-6268 (TTY/Voice); ❒(510) 659-6033 (FAX);❖gurcohlone@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

➨ The second National Multicultural Deaf Conference will be held November 14-16. Contact: Dr. **Michael Bienenstock**, Lamar University, P. O. Box 10076, Beaumont, TX 77710; ☎(409) 880-2322 (TTY); ☎(409) 880-8170 (Voice); ❒(409) 880-2265 (FAX); ❖mbeany@aol.com.

ADARA CELEBRATES ITS 30TH

ADARA, Professionals Networking for Excellence in Service Delivery with Individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, held its biennial conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from May 20-24. The theme was "Celebrating 30 years of Professionalism: Coming of Age." The conference attracted a number of excellent keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, exhibitors and participants. There were also festivities with a big birthday cake.

For the opening session, **MJ Bienvenu** and **Gay Koenemann** gave a joint presentation that focused on the momentous changes that have occurred over the past 30 years in the lives of Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons. These many changes include the recognition of ASL as a vital, thriving language, cuts in government aid, and the right to self-empowerment. The session included a review of the past and a look into what changes would be necessary for the future.

Another General Session focused on current legislative issues related to Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons and how to advocate for specific legislation. The panel focused primarily on the Rehabilitation Act and IDEA. Other key issues and information about national organizations that are working together to advocate for changes needed in the "rehab" field were also discussed. Panelists included **Suzy Rosen**, Legal Counsel for the NAD; **George Kosovich**, Rehabilitation Services Administration; **Doug Watson**, Director, Research and Training center on Deafness, and **Nancy Carr**, Lexington Center and ADARA's Legislative Liaison.

Another important General Session focused on Technology and Telecommunications. This presentation included a panel that discussed the Telecommunications Act and the future of technology and the impact it will have on those who work with Deaf and hard-of-hearing clients.

There were over 50 concurrent presentations and poster sessions throughout the week. Topics included: "Will SSI be There for You When you Need It?", "HIV/AIDS: Issues and Answers: Working with Individuals Impacted by HIV/AIDS," "Leadership for Quality and Empowerment," "Workplace Assistance to Deaf Employees," "Adjusting to Deafness: The Task for Deafened Adults," "On Developing a Language of Needs Expression or Limit Setting for the Boundary Impaired," "Time Limited Group Psychotherapy and Deaf Group Members," "Toward True Language Assessment of Deaf Adults," "Cross Cultural Management in a State Department...Art or Science?", "Alcohol and Drug Use by Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adolescents: Service Delivery and Policy Implications," "Strategies in Improving Outcomes of Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students for Two-Year Colleges," and "A Five-Year Summary of Successful Services to Traditionally Underserved Deaf People. Who is Next?"

A highlight of the conference was the Banquet, which included a wonderful historical perspective of ADARA presented by **Bob Lauritsen**. Attendees learned about ADARA's important role when it started back in the 1960s and the role it continues to play in the 1990s. Guest speaker I. King Jordan gave a warm welcome and presentation to all attendees. Entertainment was provided by **Peter Cook**, the Deaf comedian/mime/poet, who delighted the audience with his wonderful performance.

ADARA bestowed its 1996-97 awards for service provision and outstanding professional contributions.

Dr. **Nancy M. Long** (DeKalb, Illinois) received the *Eugene W. Petersen Award* recognizing those who have demonstrated exemplary direct service provision in the rehabilitation of Deaf adults with additional handicapping conditions.

The *Boyce R. Williams Award*, the highest award presented by ADARA, was presented to Dr. **William McCrone** (Washington, D.C.) in recognition of his outstanding contributions toward improvements in the rehabilitation of Deaf people.

Dr. **Gerard B. Walter** (Rochester, New York) received the *Frederick C. Schreiber Award* for his outstanding contributions to ADARA as the Editor of **JADARA** since 1991.

"The Development of a Communication Assessment Paradigm used with Traditionally Underserved Deaf Adults" by Dr. **Greg Long** and **Robin Alvarez** (DeKalb, Illinois) was selected for the *Outstanding **JADARA** Article Award.*

Dr. **Irene W. Leigh** and Dr. **Alan L. Marcus** (Washington, D.C.) received the *Bell Flasher Award* honoring their outstanding conference presentation "Deaf/Hearing Cultural Identity Paradigms."

During the conference, ADARA announced the results of its recent election and welcomed the officers and Executive Board members for the 1997-99 term. ADARA members will be represented by President **Michele Berke**, President-elect **Marcia Kolvitz**, Vice President **Deb Guthmann**, Secretary **Elizabeth Charlson**, Treasurer **Michael Serve**, Past President **Steve Larew**, and Board members who include **Linda Harrington**, **Denise Kavin**, and **Douglas Watson**. Outgoing Board members **Bruce Hodek**, **Sharaine Rawlinson**, and **Brad Trotter** were recognized for their efforts and contributions during their tenure on the Board.

Throughout the week a Silent Auction was held with items donated by various corporations, state chapters of ADARA, and individual members. After the banquet, lucky attendees who made winning bids were able to pick up their purchases.

The 1999 ADARA conference will be held on June 2-5 at the Key Bridge Marriott in the Washington, D.C. area. For conference information, contact co-chairs **Lauri Rush**, Psy. D., or **Alan Marcus**, Ph.D., at ☎(202) 651-6080 (TTY/Voice). Contact the ADARA Home Office at P.O. Box 27, Roland, Arkansas 72135; ☎(501) 868-8850 (TTY/Voice) or ❐(501) 868-8812 (FAX).

REAPING BIG PROFITS— FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CDHH) in Brookfield, Ohio, will provide new and expanded services to area residents ranging from schoolchildren to the elderly, thanks to a $10,000 grant from Ameritech.

The center became the state's first Ameritech Hometown Partners grant recipient at a check-presentation ceremony on June 19 at the company's new Brookfield Cellular Center, 3825 N. 124th Street. The Ameritech Hometown Partners program awards grants of up to $10,000 to a nonprofit organization in communities where Ameritech is either opening new or remodeling existing retail stores.

"We commend Ameritech for reaching out to the communities in which they locate their services and retail stores in caring ways that make a real difference in the lives of their neighbors," said **Charlene Dwyer**, CDHH Executive Director.

Dwyer said her organization will use the grant to benefit local residents in several ways. CDHH will work with the Waukesha Department of Health and Human Services and Interfaith Care Giving Network in Waukesha County to identify and provide assistive-technology products and services to 15 low-income older persons with severe hearing loss. In addition, CDHH will provide a free day of hearing-loss screenings for Brookfield residents and offer educational sessions during "Deaf Awareness Week" in September to Brookfield public schools.

"As a long-time corporate citizen, we at Ameritech consider Wisconsin our home," said **Cheri Kosler**, Director of Retail Operations for Ameritech Cellular and Paging Services in Wisconsin. "The goal of the Ameritech Hometown Partners program is to encourage local residents to pull together so we can make a difference in communities where we live and work."

Kosler said that a second element of the program is volunteerism. Ameritech employees who volunteer their time with an Ameritech Hometown Partner recipient organization will be recognized for their efforts through the Ameritech Pioneers, a group of 65,000 active and retired employees who volunteer their time and energy to improving the quality of life in the communities in which they live and work. As part of the Ameritech Hometown Partners program, employees will be asked to volunteer in the installation of such equipment as visual smoke detectors and doorbell-signaling devices in the homes of elderly recipients.

"Volunteerism is an important way in which Ameritech can partner with the nonprofit community and a way in which employees can be directly involved," said Kosler. "The Ameritech Hometown Partners program enables employees to direct company resources to the projects that are the most important to them and their communities."

The CDHH was chosen as an Ameritech Hometown Partner by an advisory board of local civic and business leaders, including: **Tom Kosler**, president of Kosler & Company, Inc., **Jeff Potter**, managing editor at CNI Newspapers, Inc., **Tom Weinstock**, president of Weinstock & Associates, **Yolanda Williams**, manager of the new Ameritech store in Brookfield, and Ameritech employees **Jenny Burkel**, **Peggy Larson**, and **Bucky McKinley**.

Ameritech Hometown Partners will become part of an already active corporate contributions and volunteerism effort in Wisconsin. For example:

- In 1996, Ameritech gave over $2 million to some 205 Wisconsin non-profit organizations.
- Through the Ameritech Matching Gift Program, Ameritech and its Wisconsin employees and retirees last year contributed more than $600,000 to 225 educational and cultural organizations.
- Ameritech employees in Wisconsin gave almost $570,000 to the United Way in 1996.
- Ameritech provided $65,000 to 64 nonprofit groups through a special Employee Volunteerism Program which recognizes employees' volunteer hours through cash contributions to the local groups with which they are affiliated.

The CDHH, based in Brookfield, has been providing an array of services to low-income older residents in the greater Milwaukee area for more than 50 years. It has Wisconsin's only full-time, full-line showroom of assistive devices for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

FILLING A REAL NEED

On June 18, Lancelotta and Associates, Inc. announced the appointment of **Barbara A. Willigan** as Executive Vice-President of Wyndholme Village, a planned Deaf adult/elderly community on the outskirts of Baltimore, Maryland. In her new position, Willigan will be responsible for meeting prospective Deaf residents for the only private planned development in the Mid-Atlantic region designed for them. In addition, she will oversee all Wyndholme Village operations.

Willigan received a B.A. degree in Sociology in 1971 and an M.A. in Mental Health Counseling in 1989 from Gallaudet University. Prior to joining the Wyndholme Village team, Willigan served as Coordinator of Graduate Recruitment at Gallaudet University. She has worked for over 10 years in a variety of roles within the Gallaudet Research Institute and the Graduate School.

A former vice president of the Maryland Association of the Deaf (MDAD), she has chaired its Deaf Senior Housing Project since 1992. This position, in which she served an advocate for elderly deaf people, proved to be instrumental to her involvement with Wyndholme Village. Along with the Deaf Senior Housing Committee, she researched and found insufficient services and housing available for elderly deaf.

In 1995, Willigan met with **Jim Lancelotta**, a developer, and the owner of the 34-acre future site of Wyndholme on the edge of Baltimore City. Willigan and Lancelotta shared an interest for established a community that would fulfill the needs of older deaf persons in their own families. Her own

Deaf mother, who currently lives with her in Columbia, plans to move to Wyndholme Village. Willigan has spent the past two years working on this project along with a team of designers and architects to provide them with a self-contained, secured community where communication is barrier-free.

She says, "Wyndholme Village will fulfill the cultural needs of the growing deaf senior population. They should be able to live in an environment where consideration will be made for their visual and spatial needs, an environment where those around them—from friends to shopkeepers to housing staff—can communicate fluently in sign."

Wyndholme Village is scheduled to open in December 1998. The information center, located at 5052 Dorsey Hall Drive, Suite 203, Baltimore, Maryland, will hold an "open house" informational meeting on Saturday, August 9, from 1 to 4 p.m. (Other open houses were held on June 28, July 12, and July 26.) For more information, call Willigan at ☎1-800-242-9963 (TTY), ☎(410) 730-6607 (Voice), or ❒(410) 730-6610 (FAX); ❖wyndholme@aol.com (E-mail).

"DEDICATION & ACHIEVEMENT": DR. CRONE HONORED

Dr. **Eugene Crone**, Ph.D., C.A.P., NCAC II, ICADC, MAC, National Mental Health Institute on Deafness, Inc.'s National Director of Addiction Services, has been chosen as Professional of the Year by the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC). Dr. Crone was selected for his dedication and achievement in helping alcohol and drug abusers throughout his counseling career. The award was presented to him on July 5 at NAADAC's annual conference in San Francisco.

The NAADAC award recognizes Dr. Crone's exceptional ability to enhance the quality of life for those in need. Before joining NMHID, he spent 17 years as Director of Addictions in a large treatment facility, where he was instrumental in opening the facility's first addiction unit and pioneering innovative treatment methods.

NMHID offers a full continuum of mental-health and substance-abuse services for Deaf and hard-of-hearing children, adolescents and adults. Dr. Crone has focused on Deaf patients who have been dually diagnosed—with an emotional or mental disorder such as depression, anxiety, or paranoia, as well as one or more addictions—and who struggle to overcome the communication barriers that often prevent them from recovery. Dr. Crone, highly trained and skilled in substance-abuse treatment, has successfully modified his therapy to accommodate the linguistic and cultural differences of Deaf patients. While he is not deaf himself, his therapy has been so effective that the sobriety rate in his treatment program for Deaf clients has increased from approximately one in 30 (one-third) to better than one in 6 (two-thirds). As a result, he now offers training and guidance to his peers and to members of those 12 Step Groups his Deaf clients regularly attend.

"I am truly honored at being named Professional of the Year," he said on receiving the award. "I thank NAADAC for recognizing my efforts as well as the successful efforts of our NMHID Program."

He is currently co-authoring a book on addiction in the Deaf Community.

Contact NMHID at ☎800-752-7345 (TTY/Voice), ❒(813) 239-1944 (FAX).

HER BEST CHANCE

Mrs. **Ilene Liebman Youngs**, a second-generation Deaf mother of two wonderful Deaf children, **Megan** and **Vance**, is battling for her life. She has cancer. She is now receiving treatment at the American Metabolic Institute, 555 Saturn Boulevard, B M/S 432, San Diego, California 92154; ☎1-800-388-1083 (Voice). This institute uses about 150 different non-toxic medications to treat cancer. It's her best chance. The cost of the treatment is $30,000 for a month's stay. As Ilene and her husband **Macklin** are Canadian citizens, their health insurance will not cover the cost.

Her family and friends are asking you to donate as much money as you can afford to help pay for the treatment and interpreters' fees. Any amount is appreciated, as each dollar counts. Please contact **Linda McLauglin**, fund administrator, at ❖mclaughl@stn.net (E-mail) or send the check directly to: The Ilene Youngs Fund for Special Alternative Treatment in San Diego, California. Donations can be made to the Royal Bank of Canada, Branch 3092-3, Account #5064027, Milton Plaza, 55 Ontario Street South, Milton, Ontario, Canada L9T-2M5.

Ilene Liebman Youngs was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, the daughter of Samuel and Marsha Liebman. She attended P.S. 47 in Manhattan, and graduated with honors in 1968, and graduated from Canarsie High School, Brooklyn, in 1971. At Gallaudet College, she was voted a "Who's Who," was class president, a member of the Phi Kappa Zeta sorority, a pom-pom cheerleader, and performed in Drama Club plays. She received a B.S. in Psychology in 1976 and a Master's in Deaf Education from Western Maryland College in 1982. She is a preschool teacher at the Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, Ontario, Canada, and authored a research paper on a deaf toddler's natural ASL expression, which was published under **Teacher Research in a Bilingual/Bicultural School for Deaf Students Monograph Series**, No. 1. Macklin Youngs is an assistant principal at the Drury School. Both of their children attend the school.

Your thoughts and prayers—and generosity—will be appreciated.

IT STARTS WITH A HANDFUL OF VOLUNTEERS

On June 10, Hospice Care of California took the first step in getting together a small team of Deaf volunteers to provide assistance for deaf people who are dying. Terminally ill and dying patients have the right to choose any hospice provider. Hospice Care hopes to "fill the bill" by fulfilling the needs of Deaf patients. They hope that it will grow into a viable program for the deaf.

The first training session was held at Temple Beth Solomon for the Deaf in Arleta, a suburb of Los Angeles, with six people in attendance and **Alicia Speare** interpreting. **Leonard Meyer**, who sent us his report, says, "It is hoped that the classes will increase in size and scope as the word gets around about the kind of service that we provide. Later sessions will be held at various locations to make the classes more accessible to deaf residents living in outlying areas who wish to volunteer."

There is no cost to a terminally ill patient or family if Hospice Care is ordered by the attending physician. The costs are borne by Medicare and MediCal or by insurance carriers for commercially-insured patients. "We hope that as volunteers we can provide support and companionship for these patients and their families."

If you're interested in registering for future classes and volunteering, call Hospice Care of California at ☎1-800-889-3227 and ask for **Melissa Christian**.

DEATH OF AN NTID LEGEND

On May 12, **Alice Beardsley** died in Rochester, New York. She was 75.

When NTID was established in 1968, she was its first interpreter. She was something of a legendary figure, too, because of her remarkable story: she was early-deafened, spent her childhood and adult life as Deaf, and, in midlife, became hearing overnight (the hearing in one ear was restored through surgery), then gradually became deaf again. During her "hearing" life, she became NTID's first interpreter—"the best one interpreter there ever was."

With her silvery-white hair and green eyes, she was a striking figure. **Arden Neisser** heard about her while researching her book, The Other Side of Silence (Knopf, 1983, since reprinted by Gallaudet University Press), and was eager to interview her. She described Beardsley thus: "a striking woman . . . with a pale, delicate face, and white hair that seemed almost transparent."

Alice Benedict was born in Corning, New York, in 1922. She lost her hearing when she was 5, probably during a bout with scarlet fever and measles. After getting nowhere in public school (she kept getting held back—no one realized that she was deaf for 3 years), she was enrolled at Rochester School for the Deaf when she was 8. Her father died when she was 2; her mother died soon after she started school. So she became a ward of the state, and for 11 years, RSD was her home. She and the other girls in the dorm were great friends and developed their own signing system—home signs. She got married when she was 19, and was married for 30 years, and had two daughters. She learned ASL after she got married, and ran a dry-cleaning store—a relatively easy task, communication-wise.

In 1964 she had a bad ear infection and went to a doctor for treatment. He told her that there was operation—tympanoplasty—that might restore the hearing in her right ear. (Tympanoplasty is the surgical replacement of diseased, hardened, or missing tissue—eardrum or bones—with substitute tissue or bone.) Using a small bit of bone from Beardsley's skull, the doctor fashioned replacements for the three tiny bones of the middle ear (the *stapes*, *malleus*, and *incus*).

She could now hear in one ear, and the noise was overwhelming. "It was traumatic," she told Neisser. She gave up her job at the dry-cleaners; the racket of the machines was unbearable. Gradually, she got used to the noise of the everyday world. In 1965 she took a new sales job and became Rochester's first professional interpreter. Word spread fast, and her clients kept her *very* busy. She also became president of the Empire State Association of the Deaf.

When NTID was being set up, she applied for an interpreting job, but wasn't accepted. In 1968, she applied again, successfully, and was hired part-time, and, in 1969, went full-time Her Comprehensive Skills scores were superb—some of them perfect.

Increasingly independent, she separated from her husband in 1974. In 1975, she decided to have a tympanoplasty in her left ear too. But the results were disastrous. She lost her residual hearing in that ear, and sustained damage to the inner ear that destroyed her sense of balance. "I was completely shattered." She underwent surgery again. "The doctor removed the semicircular canal, which restored the balance." She returned to work, but her hearing wasn't as good as it had been before the second operation, and gradually deteriorated. She ultimately switched to reverse interpreting, trained interpreters, and taught ASL.

In 1977, she told Neisser, she actually died of a heart attack, but "came back." ("Near-death experiences" like hers have been well-documented.) Deeply religious, even mystical, she was active in the Episcopalian Church.

As Neisser put it, "Being a hearing person for a decade did not make her happy, but it certainly changed her life." Neisser called her "a unique fathomless person with an impressive talent for survival. A paradoxical person, both earthy and ethereal, hearing and deaf—but often neither."

"Everybody knows me," she said. Everyone at NTID did know her, and knew her story. Many remember her. She was unforgettable—and she was one-of-a-kind.

WANTED FOR QUESTIONING

Forklift operators: The NAD Law Center is representing a client who has been denied forklift training because he is deaf. It's now looking for deaf forklift operators who work helping to provide parts to assembly-line workers.

One of the responsibilities of a forklift operator is to "stock" or "feed" the assembly line—to deliver parts to various places along the assembly line. In this case, according to the employer, the assembly line is very busy. There are many forklifts in operation, with workers walking around all the time. This is an old refrigeration plant, so the NADLC is especially interested in talking with deaf forklift drivers who deal with the assembly of refrigerators, washers, dryers, and similar items.

If you are a deaf forklift operator and have experience doing forklift work with assembly-line workers, please contact: **Marc Charmatz**, NAD Law Center, 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910; ☎(301) 587-7732 (TTY/Voice); ☎(301) 587-0234 (FAX); ❖mcharmatz@mcimail.com (E-mail).

Van drivers: The NAD Law Center is co-counsel in a case in which a deaf woman has been denied the opportunity to drive a commercial vehicle (van) on the job. The employer, a large shipping and delivery company, says that this woman cannot drive the van because she's deaf. It weighs less than 10,000 pounds. If you know a deaf person who's driving a van on the job, ask him or her to contact Marc Charmatz at the above numbers.

This is urgent. Contact the NAD as soon as possible, because of court deadlines.

MEDIA CLIPS

Passion play

Sweet Nothing in My Ear, written and directed by **Stephen Sachs**, opened at the Fountain Theatre in Los Angeles on June 20. (It has been held over at least another month, so if you can catch it, do!) The reviews have been excellent. Judging from the critical response, Sachs has achieved what he set out to do: to create a play that was both educational and good theater, one that would make its audiences think about and discuss afterwards. The performers got superb reviews, too.

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An in-depth feature article by **Daryl H. Miller** appeared in the June 22 issue of the **Los Angeles Times**. It was titled, "A Sign of the Times," and subtitled, "Stephen Sachs' play deals with a controversial, high-tech alternative to deafness." It provided a background to the play and the controversy that inspired Sachs to write it.

Sachs became involved with Deaf theater in 1987, when he helped prepare a sign-interpreted performance of his own play ***The Baron in the Trees*** at the Ensemble Studio Theatre. He was captivated by ASL.

"It was that experience that really got me excited about what ASL can do," he says, miming starbursts of ideas exploding in his head. 'The energy and the passion of the language, the vivid visual reality of it. Ever since then, I've just had this little bug in my brain—in my heart, rather—of wanting to do more of that kind of work."

He co-founded the Fountain Theatre in 1990 and encouraged the formation of Deaf West Theatre, which began at the Fountain and moved to its own home, the former Heliotrope Theatre, in 1993. He directed two Deaf West productions (***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** and ***'night, Mother***) and sponsored an ASL-poetry workshop and an outreach program to Deaf teenagers. But, as explained to Miller, "I don't want to appear as a hearing person speaking for the deaf community. I'm just a theater person trying to tell a story."

Sweet Nothing was inspired by a 1990 **Los Angeles Times** article about cochlear implants. "There was a photograph of a boy wearing one; he had this device sticking on the outside of his head, behind his ear, with the wires coming down. It was that image of that innocent little boy, with this thing hanging off his head, that startled me—and made me stop and stare at this picture for the longest time. And when I read the article, which described the controversy involved in the implant issue, I realized that this would be great theater. Because the conflict is very hot and strong and complicated. Both sides are very passionate about their beliefs."

In doing research for the play, he "flip-flopped back and forth on the issue." He studied documentary videotapes made by the House Ear Institute in Los Angeles (the pioneering cochlear-implant clinic). Seeing a videotaped scene of a child who had just received an implant and was reacting to hearing sound for the first time, Sachs cried. "I was so moved, and I'd think, 'It's a miracle. Hallelujah!'" Then he'd watch a videotape showing the whole operation in color—the drill boring into the patient's skull, everything. "The invasiveness of that surgery really startled me. And then I would think, 'No. There's no way I would let anybody do that to my son.'"

Miller also interviewed the cast. **Bob Kirsch**, who played Dan, the hearing husband and father, said, "Not everyone wants to or has to or *should* be like everyone else." **Terrylene**, who played Laura, his ASL-Deaf wife, said, "I cannot become used to the idea [of the implants]. I believe that I am deaf because I have something to contribute to the community, and I don't feel the need to be changed." Her son **Gianni Manganelli**, who plays the couple's son Adam, had definite opinions too. He told **Freda Norman** (who played Sally, Laura's mother), "I don't want wires in my head. I don't want an implant."

Sachs told Miller that implants don't restore normal hearing. "It's still diminished hearing. It has a mechanical, computer-like sound to it. So, a parent has to weigh: How much are you really gaining by putting this device into the

skull of your child?" One theme of the play is "the price humankind is paying for technology." Said Sachs: "This fear of the implant wiping out a culture is real. It's not just paranoia."

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The June 26-July 2 issue of **Drama-Logue** contained a generally positive review of the play by **Shirle Gottlieb**. Excerpts:

> Director Stephen Sachs has created a powerful work that focuses on one family's struggle between their cultural values and medical science. Presented in American Sign Language, with voice-overs for those in the audience who can hear, ***Sweet Nothing*** is a provocative drama that is written for the deaf community and presented by deaf performers. To say that the acting is passionate is an understatement.
>
> Deaf actress Terrylene's portrayal of Laura is phenomenal. She is so full of life, exuberance and joy, she explodes off the stage. Complementing her perfectly is Bob Kirsch's sensitive performance of her loving, hearing husband who wants what he believes to be the best for his boy. Gianni Manganelli (Terrylene's real-life son) is adorable as little deaf Adam who is loved so much he splits the family apart. If there is nothing "wrong" with being deaf, why must Adam's hearing be "fixed?"
>
> The rest of the cast is also superb—especially **Bernard Bragg** as Laura's wounded, opinionated father and Freda Norman as his loyal, deeply religious wife. She truly believes that if God wanted them to hear they wouldn't be deaf—that Dan's desire to "fix" Adam's hearing means he feels there is something "wrong" with the rest of them.

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Backstage West carried a review by **Les Spindle** in its June 26 issue. Excerpts:

> The Fountain Theatre's distinguished tradition of including deaf theatre among its eclectic repertoire ascends to a new level of excellence with the triumphant premiere of writer/director Stephen Sachs' brilliant play, ***Sweet Nothing in My Ear.*** The profoundly moving production employs both deaf and hearing actors, using interpreters to translate sign language to spoken word and vice-versa.
>
> The cross-pollination technique is the perfect vehicle to convey Sachs' sensitive exploration of a cultural conflict unknown to many—between the mass community of hearing people and the deaf subculture. (...)
>
> Sachs expertly orchestrates the diverse communications, creating riveting drama that brims with poignancy and intelligence. Kirsch and Terrylene are heartbreaking as a loving couple who are tragically divided. Manganelli is charming as the bright child, while Bragg and Norman are superb as the grandparents. The ensemble of interpreters and supporting characters also excel. Sachs' beautiful play gracefully communicates its urgent message to a diverse audience through the universal language of the heart.

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"Brilliant! "Phenomenal!" "Riveting!" "Passionate!" "Superb!" "Powerful!" "Provocative!" Other reviews in **Frontiers Magazine**, **Los Angeles Times**, **It's Showtime**, and **L.A. Weekly** had similarly warm praise for the play. Short takes:

Stephen Sachs' new play about the conflicts within a deaf/hearing relationship is the best play of its kind I've ever seen. Sweet, caring, loving, and ultimately tragic to a marriage, it illustrates an area of concern which most of us in the hearing world have no knowledge of—but know it, we should . . . ***Sweet Nothing*** is a meaningful play, one sure to attract a great deal of attention . . . Sachs has directed as well, and his sincerity and artistic ability merge in a satisfying way . . . it's a gem worth one's time and effort . . . the end result is a banquet for artists and audiences alike."—**Frontiers Magazine**

"Stephen Sachs' passionate, insightful new drama exploring the latent issues polarizing the deaf and hearing communities is provocative and moving . . . ***Sweet Nothing*** stirs up serious issues . . . Sachs' careful, lucid framing of the converging issues are guaranteed to provoke both the emotions and the intellect . . . Sachs achieves what he sets out to accomplish, and benefits from the visceral impact of a mixed hearing and deaf cast.—**Los Angeles Times**

"Writer/Director Stephen Sachs has created a provocative tale . . . This production enlightens its audience . . . Sachs' script engenders debate that lingers long after the end of the story, providing good education and good theater.—**It's Showtime**

"Playwright/Stephen Sachs' well-executed play . . . Cogent and well-researched, Sachs' work proffers rare insight . . . Sachs directs with a choreographer's eloquence . . . informative and full of heart-warming moments . . . the drama ignites."—**L.A. Weekly**

✏ Thanks to Stephen Sachs and Bernard Bragg for faxing us copies of the reviews.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■

FOUR LUCKY CITIES GET THEIR *WISH*

First open-captioned movie test held

Round up your friends, splurge on tickets, and don't forget the popcorn!

On July 20 and 23, Cineplex Odeon Theaters in four cities—New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C.—showed open-captioned screenings of Universal Studios' new comedy, ***A Simple Wish***. The movies were shown at mainstream times during the course of regular movie schedules: a Sunday matinee (approximately 1:00) and a Wednesday evening (approximately 7:00). (Note that future screening times may also vary slightly because theaters still need to arrange the rest of their schedules for those days.)

A Simple Wish boasts an all-star cast with Martin Short, Kathleen Turner, Robert Pastorelli (from ***Michael***), Mara Wilson (from ***Matilda***), Amanda Plummer, Francis Capra (from ***Kazaam***) and Teri Garr. It's about a male fairy godmother (he got the job in an era of affirmative action) who must combat an evil fairy godmother who has stolen all the other fairy godmothers' magic wands.

The Cineplex Odeon theaters scheduled to show this open captioned movie were: 400 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10021; 600 North Michigan, Chicago, IL 60611; Universal Cinemas, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608; and Mazza Galleria, 5300 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20015.

Many of you are aware that there have been other open-captioned screenings of movies in the past. These prior movies were donated by studios to nonprofit organizations that acted as intermediaries between the studios and the theater chains. They did not reach the theaters until many weeks, and sometimes month, after their non-captioned versions, and they were frequently shown at off-hours.

Representatives of the Movie Access Coalition, a coalition of 9 national and local organizations representing deaf and hard-of-hearing people, have been working with motion picture studio executives and the National Association of Theater Owners to convince them to begin mainstreaming open-captioned movies in area theaters on a weekly basis. These executives have agreed to conduct a test project in which open-captioned movies would be shown twice a week in neighborhood theaters at regular movie times in a limited number of cities.

A Simple Wish was the first movie to begin this test project. It is the *first open-captioned movie ever* to have been booked from a major studio *directly* to the theaters. Universal indicated that if there was a good turnout (a capacity crowd) on July 20 and 23, it would continue to show this movie in these theaters in the weeks following this test. With a large turnout, Universal and other studios will have greater incentive to provide other open-captioned movies in area theaters across the country on a weekly basis.

As the announcement from Movie Access Coalition put it: "Show your support for open captioned films! Attend ***A Simple Wish***, enjoy a great movie, and demonstrate your interest in going to the movies!"

The Movie Access Coalition will continue to provide information via various sources regarding additional screenings of this movie. Again, with a large turnout, Universal and other studios will have greater incentive to provide other open-captioned movies in area theaters across the country on a weekly basis.

MAC members are: NAD, SHHH, Consumer Action Network, Alexander Graham Bell Association of the Deaf, ALDA, American Society for Deaf Children, Washington Area Group for the Hard of Hearing, inc., Veterans Organization for the Hearing Impaired, and TDI.

For more information about the Movie Access Coalition, please contact: **Toby Silver**, Chair, Movie Access Coalition, National Association of the Deaf, 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4500; ☎(301) 587-1789 (TTY); ☎(301) 587-1788 (Voice); ❒(301) 587-1791 (FAX); ❖nadhq@juno.com (E-mail).

✏ Editors' note: This was a wildly exciting bit of news. It was carried on Creative Access's E-mail and fax "network," by the NAD, and on "TFA."

FRUSTRATED IN PHILLY

A personal note from **Carol Finkle**, Director of Creative Access

re: Update on open-captioned summer movies

As you all know, no Open Captioned movies were shown in our area during June or July this year. Why? Because area theaters s-c-r-e-*-*-d us by offering *one* screening time only: 10 o'clock in the morning. And, you know, we said "Thanks...but NO THANKS" 'cuz it was such an insult and such a backward step for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people all across America. But of course we NEVER GIVE UP, smile! So here is Creative Access's update for August and September OC Movie schedule—*almost* definite—there will be more updates.

Batman—August 23 and 24

Hercules and/or ***The Lost World***—September 13 and 14

All movies shown between 1 and 4 p.m. Theater locations and exact times TBA. For ticket information, contact Creative Access at ☎(215) 627-9271 (TTY/Voice); ❒(215) 627-9571 (FAX); or ❖CrAccess@aol.com (E-mail).

SUPPORT PBS!

PBS, NPR (National Public Radio), and the arts are facing major cutbacks in funding. In spite of the efforts of each station to reduce spending costs and streamline their services, some government officials believe that the funding currently going to these programs is too large a portion of funding for something which is seen as "unworthwhile." Currently, taxes from the general public for PBS equal $1.12 per person per

year, and the National Endowment for the Arts equals 64¢ a year in total.

A January 1995 CNN/**USA Today**/Gallup poll indicated that 76% of Americans wish to keep funding for PBS, third only to national defense and law enforcement as the most valuable programs for federal funding.

Each year, the Senate and House Appropriations committees each have 13 subcommittees with jurisdiction over many programs and agencies. Each subcommittee passes its own appropriation bill. The goal each year is to have each bill signed by the beginning of the fiscal year, which is October 1.

The only way that our representatives can be aware of the base of support for PBS and funding for these types of programs is by making our voices heard.

Please contact ❖wein2688@blue.univnorthco.edu to join the petition drive. If that address is inoperative, contact ❖kubi7975@blue.univnorthco.edu. The complete list will be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, and Representative **Newt Gingrich**, who is the instigator of the action to cut funding to these worthwhile programs.

We've got to be active in saving these important institutions! Forward this to everyone you know, and help keep these programs alive.

NOTE: The easiest way to forward this "petition" is to copy the entire text and paste it into a new mail message. Add your name to the end and send it on to your recipients.

Thank you.

—Originated by **Elizabeth Weinert**, University of Northern Colorado, received from Creative Access

RALLYING FOR HOY

The Committee for "Dummy" Hoy was planning to stage a protest rally at 1997 induction ceremonies at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, August 3 at 2:30 p.m.

Steve Sandy, who notified us about the rally, cautioned participants: "A word of advice to you all: The purpose of the 'protest' is not to disrupt the induction ceremony but to educate those of the Veterans' Committee and influential baseball and media types on the merits of [inducting] Dummy Hoy in this esteemed Hall of Fame. Show your support. There's a possibility that at least 300 people will attend the event!"

Other new Committee developments: the creation of a Dummy Hoy Fan Club and plans to hold a Deaf Americans in Baseball Exhibit at the Cooperstown Hall of Fame. The Fan Club hopes to publicize Hoy's accomplishments and increase media awareness and exposure. Pending approval from the Hall of Fame, the exhibit will showcase the achievements of deaf players, their contributions to the sport, and will display mementos and artifacts.

Cooperstown's current exhibit, "African-Americans in Baseball," opened in June. It showcases the achievements of black Americans in baseball, the Negro League and its stars, and the ultimate "breaking of the color barrier" in major-league baseball in 1947. It seeks to present a fuller picture of a part of sports history that has been too often overlooked, or simply ignored. The Committee for "Dummy" Hoy hopes to accomplish a similar awareness-raising with its exhibit.

For information on getting to Cooperstown, visit ✱http://www.discovercooperstown.net/direct/direct.html, then click the picture to get the map, or visit ✱http://www.discovercooperstown.net/direct/map2.jpg

For more information, contact **Robert D. Traina, Jr.**, at ☎(202) 547-1064, ❒(202) 547-3284 (FAX), or ❖rtraina531@aol.com (E-mail).

✏ See also: "The debate heats up!" in the June "News Briefs, pp. 29-30.

BREATHTAKING VIEW— & SO MUCH TO DO!

The Michigan Ski Club of the Deaf won the bid to host the 16th Biennial Ski Convention of the U.S. Deaf Skiers Association. It will be held from February 8 to 15, 1998, at Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

The concept of a biennial ski week/convention was first proposed in 1968 by Utah Deaf Skiers. It has expanded over the years to include evening social activities for recreational skiers, racers, and non-skiers. Alpine skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing events, sightseeing, participating in community winter-recreation activities, meetings, wine-and-cheese parties, outdoor picnics, races, and a banquet are also part of the event.

Headquarters will be the Best Western Lodge in Jackson Hole, 12 miles away from the Teton Village ski slopes. Free shuttle service is provided. Ski-lift discounts are available for USDSA members.

Skis and other equipment are available for rental. Childcare is available. Other exciting activities: heli-skiing, snowcat powder skiing, climbing, ski-mountaineering, snowmobiling and dog-sledding, snowshoe tours, a sleigh ride, wildlife expeditions, indoors ice-skating, and the North American Deaf Ski Championship, pitting the U.S. Deaf Elite Team against the Canadian Deaf Ski Team, and the U.S. Deaf Ski Championship. Snowboarding events (demonstrations) are being added to the 1999 Winter World Games for the Deaf at Davos, Switzerland. Races will be held for those who want to be on the WWGD demonstration team.

For accommodation information: ☎800-458-3866, ❒(307) 739-9168 (FAX), or ❖1030304.256@compuserve.com (E-mail). For travel information, contact **Joel Barish** at American Express Travel at ☎800-289-6990 (TTY), ❒(202) 775-0786 (FAX), ❖Travel@clarknet (E-mail); or **Joyce Brubaker** at ☎888-475-3705 (TTY), ❒(716) 529-4155 (FAX), ❖Travel@eznet.net (E-mail).

Contact **Julie Soncrant** and the Planning Committee at USDSA, 315 Glen Lane, Elkins Park, PA 19027.

Background: Jackson Hole has a rich frontier history. During the craze for beaver hats (1824), it was a crossroads for beaver-trapping trails. Trappers and mountain men converged on the valley and held rowdy annual gatherings to sell pelts and replenish supplies. When the fashion for beaver hats gave way to silk toppers in 1845, the valley slipped into oblivion. Settlers arrived in 1884, and in 1894, laid out the original townsite of Jackson. It's now a tourist attraction with a museum and a unique Town Square—the last best of the old West.

BEFORE YOU SUE . . .

It's hard to believe, but July 26 marked the 7-year anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Many great strides have occurred throughout the last 7 years with respect to access for people with disabilities, but certainly we all agree much more needs to be done.

Toward that end, the Department of Justice is promoting a mediation program in different parts of the country for help in implementing the ADA. Mediation is just one more tool to be used in bringing about a more accessible community. Below is background information on a program near you.

Mediation is an informal process where an impartial third party helps disputing parties to find mutually satisfactory solutions to their differences. Mediation can be used to resolve disputes quickly and satisfactorily, without the expense and hassle of formal investigations and litigation. Proceedings are confidential and voluntary for all parties. They typically involve one or more meetings between the disputing parties, or one or more confidential sessions between one party and the mediator.

Mediators are not JUDGES. The role of the mediator is to manage the process through which parties resolve their conflict, not to decide how the conflict should be resolved. They do this by assuring the fairness of the mediation process, facilitating communication, and maintaining the balance of power between the parties.

Representation by an attorney is permitted, but not required. Mediators may not give legal advice or interpret the law, but they will refer parties to impartial outside experts within the disability and legal communities when questions or issues needing clarification arise.

Successful mediation results are binding agreements between the two parties. If mediation is unsuccessful and an agreement cannot be reached, parties may still pursue all legal remedies provided under the ADA, including private lawsuits.

The best part of mediation is the cost. There is none. The Department of Justice refers appropriate ADA disputes to mediators *at no cost* to the parties. This program employs professional mediators who have been trained in the legal requirements of the ADA. The majority of ADA disputes are quickly and effectively resolved through this program.

If you or someone you know has been experiencing difficulty bringing businesses into voluntary compliance you should seriously consider mediation. All that needs to be done is simply follow the usual procedure for filing a complaint with DOJ and note on the complaint that you want to take your dispute to mediation. The Justice Department will make every effort to comply with requests for mediation.

✏ **Becky Ogle**, Justice For All (➤)

Location of Trained Mediators

ALABAMA: Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery

ALASKA: Anchorage

ARIZONA: Lake Havasu, Scottsdale, Tempe

ARKANSAS: Little Rock

CALIFORNIA: Altadena, Bakersfield, Berkeley, Canoga Park, Corte Madera, El Cerrito, Encino, Goleta, Grass Valley, Hermosa Beach, Huntington Beach, Lafayette, Los Angeles, Mill Valley, North Hollywood, Oakland, Pacific Palisades, Rancho, Palos Verdes, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Monica, Sebastopol, Studio City, Torrance, Tarzana, Walnut Creek

COLORADO: Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, Grand Junction

CONNECTICUT: Greenwich, Ridgefield

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FLORIDA: Bradenton, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Miami Lakes, Melbourne, Orlando, Pembroke Pines, Sarasota, St. Petersburg, Stuart, Tampa, Temple Terrace, West Palm Beach

GEORGIA: Atlanta, Athens, East Point, Stone Mountain, Tucker

IDAHO: Boise, Moscow

ILLINOIS: Arlington Heights, Bloomington, Carbondale, Chicago, Evergreen Park, Highland Park, Homewood, Oswego

INDIANA: Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, South Bend, Spencer

IOWA: Iowa City, West Des Moines

KANSAS: Kansas City, Lawrence, Manhattan, Olathe, Overland Park, Topeka

Wichita

KENTUCKY: Louisville

LOUISIANA: Alexandria, Broussard, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Metairie, Shreveport

MAINE: Cumberland, Portland

MARYLAND: Annapolis, Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Kensington, Knoxville, Potomac, Rockville, Severna Park, Silver Spring, Tacoma Park

MASSACHUSETTS: Arlington, Salem, Wendell

MICHIGAN: Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Detroit, Hamtramck, Harperwoods, Petoskey

MINNESOTA: Apple Valley, Minneapolis, St. Paul

MISSOURI: Belton, Cape Girardeau, Independence, Kansas City, St. Louis

NEBRASKA: Lincoln, Omaha, South Sioux City

NEVADA: Henderson, Las Vegas

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Concord

NEW JERSEY: Montclair, Newark, Princeton, Ridgewood

NEW YORK: Clifton, Great Neck, Hastings on Hudson, Jamaica, New York City, Rego Park, Scarsdale, Syracuse

NORTH CAROLINA: Asheville, Cary, Chapel Hill, Goldsboro, Raleigh

OHIO: Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, Medina, North Canton, Reynoldsburg, Toledo

OKLAHOMA: Norman

OREGON: Ashland, Corvallis, Portland, Salem, West Linn

PENNSYLVANIA: Bensalem, Harrisburg, Media, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, West Lawn, Wynnewood

RHODE ISLAND: Bristol, Pawtucket

SOUTH CAROLINA: Columbia, Greenville, Irmo

SOUTH DAKOTA: Brandon, Sioux Falls

TENNESSEE: Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis

TEXAS: Abilene, Arlington, Colleyville, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, Driftwood, Houston, Irving, Lubbock, Lucas, Plano, Richardson, Richmond, San Angelo, South Lake, Terrell

UTAH: Salt Lake City

VERMONT: Montpelier, Underhill Center

VIRGINIA: Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church, Hampton, Marion, McLean, Powhatan, Virginia Beach

WASHINGTON: Seattle

WISCONSIN: Madison, Shorewood

DOWN TO THE DOORPULLS

The University of South Florida is in the midst of a $250-million building and renovation program in which special attention is being made to ensure that newly constructed and existing facilities are accessible to everyone, including the disabled.

The new College of Education, Center for Urban Transportation Research and USF's first parking garage, like all other newly-constructed facilities, have been designed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Signed into law in 1990, the ADA is a federal law that contains accessibility-related requirements for new construction, for alterations or renovations to buildings and facilities, and for improving access to existing facilities of public and private organizations providing goods or services to the public.

ADA compliance within new buildings doesn't create significantly greater expense because most of the requirements have already been built into building codes, said **Bill Neyland**, an architect in the USF Office of Facilities Planning. Items that need to be included as part of the facility anyway—such as door handles, elevator buttons and entrances—are designed to accommodate the disabled.

Amending existing campus facilities can be costly. However, USF has developed some innovative ways to accommodate disabled students. To provide adequate spacing between bookshelves and have adequate accessibility in the main library, about one-third of the book space would have had to be removed. Instead, the library purchased two "Hoveround" wheelchairs that fit in existing aisles and are able to revolve in place.

Facilities Planning has funded accessibility-related renovations from a budget for ADA-related projects of about $200,000 a year. In June of 1995, a Transition Plan was completed establishing which buildings are a high priority for accessibility renovations. Among the highest on the list were the Student Services Building, Cooper Hall, and the Marshall Center.

Facilities Planning Associate Director **John Crosby** pointed out that USF has historically been responsive to the needs of the disabled. The ADA "just puts a different focus on it by making it a civil right," he said.

A primary reason that "USF has always been in pretty good shape accessibility-wise" is its relative youth, said **Bobbi Armstrong**, Disabled Student Services Coordinator. Institutions created in the 1800s or early 1900s face much more difficult challenges. USF, founded in 1956, is "pretty user-friendly," she said.

In the last 5 years, the number of disabled students at USF has increased by more than 300 students. In the '90-91 school year, 245 students identified themselves as disabled. By the '95-96 school year, the total increased to 562.

With a student body of 36,000, USF is now among the 13 largest universities in the nation. It is home to some 200 degree programs, including the M.D. USF has won national acclaim for its research and instruction efforts in teacher education, accounting, marine science, Alzheimer's disease, public health, psychology and other areas.

For more information, visit the USF Website at ✷www.usfnews.usf.edu.

EXPLORING EAST ANGLIA— IN A WHEELCHAIR

✏ *Some months ago, we received a press release about Campus Holidays, "self-catering breaks" for physically-disabled people visiting England. We published it in our April "News Briefs," and contacted the Winged Fellowship Trust in Cambridge to ask if there were any specific accommodations for deaf people. We received an honest (but encouraging) personal response. (And it didn't take that long to get it, either!)*—Editors

1. The press release

Winged Fellowship Trust, the United Kingdom's leading provider of holidays for physically disabled people has launched "Campus Holidays"° in Cambridge, England. Cambridge is home to the world-famous university (and is a sightseeing must if you're in England).

"Campus Holidays" are self-catering breaks for independent and semi-independent disabled people. They will appeal to disabled men and women from the U.S.A. who would like the opportunity to explore the East Anglia region of England

from a fully accessible building designed around the needs of disabled people—perhaps as part of a visit to see relatives. Volunteer-care staff will assist visitors.

The holidays are be based in a specially-built residential Centre for students with physical disabilities. It has level access, automatic doors, wide corridors, showers and special baths designed for wheelchair users, help/call buttons, variable-height beds, etc.

The Winged Fellowship Trust is a well-known UK charity that sponsors Centre-based holidays. It also has residential Centres at Redhill, Surrey, and Chigwell, Essex. "Campus Holidays" offer wheelchair users maximum choice to set their own programme° in Cambridge and East Anglia. They are priced at £295 per person per week.

Paul Sample, Communications Director of Winged Fellowship Trust, said: "Many people with disabilities in England know about our services. We provide 7,000 holidays a year to disabled people. 'Campus Holidays' offer an even wider choice of holidays to people with physical disabilities who want to set their own itinerary.° The building and location give guests maximum choice to do their own thing. We look forward to seeing disabled guests from the United States of America in Cambridge this year. "

"Campus Holidays" can cater for 6 guests at a time. There is shared use of a paravan—and groups of six disabled people, or individuals, from the United States will get a warm welcome.

Contact Tori Ray, Campus Holidays Co-ordinator, at the Wesley Methodist Church,.Christ's Pieces, Cambridge, CB1 1LB, England, or telephone: (UK code) ☎01223-311416 (Voice).

✏ No mention was made of accessibility for deaf visitors with mobility handicaps—are there doorbell-flashers and TTYs? Interested readers will want to ask about that. (We did.)

holiday: British English for vacation.
programme: British-English spelling of "program."
itinerary: tour schedule; travel plan.

2. Our letter

Ms. Tori Ray, Campus Holidays Coordinator
Winged Fellowship Trust
Angel House
20-32 Pentonville Road
London N1 9XD
ENGLAND
FAX: 0171-278-0370

I received your news release about "Campus Holidays" for physically disabled people. What I would like to know is: are these holidays accessible to deaf people? Are there visual signaling devices (doorbell flashers, etc.)? Are there any sign-language-interpreter services provided?

We do have deaf people who have mobility handicaps and who use wheelchairs. So, naturally, I'm curious about the accommodations made for deaf participants.

Let me know. Thanks.

Matthew S. Moore
Publisher, **DEAF LIFE**/President, Deaf Life Press

3. The response

Thank you for your letter regarding Campus Holidays in Cambridge, England. I am sorry it has taken so long to get back to you.

The hostel we are using for the self-catering breaks is purpose-built for physically disabled people; unfortunately however, it does not have specific visual signalling devices. I am not fully aware of all the things which would be necessary for a deaf person with a mobility problem but if you could advise me further I can say what we have available and what is missing.

If there were people who were interested in coming on holiday with us I could make special arrangements and try to ensure their volunteer was skilled in sign language.

I'm sorry not to be able to give you a more positive answer. This is the first year we are running these holidays and we welcome both positive and negative comments regarding the facilities we offer. This is obviously an area we need to take into consideration for the future.

Thank you very much, please do contact me if you have any further questions, ideas or comments.

Tori Ray
Projects Coordinator
Winged Fellowship
Cambridge, England

DISABILITY-SPORT MOVEMENT FACES HURDLE

Kaleidoscope Television has written Congress in support of an initiative to strengthen sports opportunities for people with disabilities. Congress is reviewing the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 to determine whether amendments are needed to reflect changes in the Olympic Movement.

KTV sent letters to its nine Congressional Advisory Board members, including **Bob Dole**, **William Frist** (R-TN), Newt Gingrich (R-GA), **Bart Gordon** (D-TN), **Tom Harkin** (D-IA), **Orrin Hatch** (R-UT), **Daniel Inouye** (D-HI), **Olympia Snowe** (R-ME) and chairman **Lamar Smith** (R-TX). The letters request Congressional support for proposed amendments to the Amateur Sports Act, as KTV joins the efforts of the United States Disabled Sports Team and Disabled Sports USA.

As **Ryan Prince**, Executive Director of KTV's National Advisory Board, wrote: "I urge you to level the playing field, and support this critical issue that can brighten the future for our nation's many world-class athletes who have a disability."

"Since 1978, disabled athletes have received second class treatment instead of recognition," said **Kirk Bauer** of Disabled Sports USA. Bauer said that while he has seen a great deal of progress, significant differences remain in the way athletes with disabilities are treated. "Despite their many accomplishments, elite athletes with disabilities and their representatives still are largely excluded from the key decision-making bodies of the USOC."

"Progress has been made, but these gains are not included in the USOC's constitution or bylaws," said **Paul DePace**, chairman of the U.S. Disabled Sports Team. "No force of law exists to fall back on, only oral agreement. If leadership changes, these agreements may no longer be valid. It is necessary to solidify these gains with written law."

The United States Disabled Sports Team, representing the seven disability-sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC), is mounting efforts to enact legislation that would include athletes with disabilities under the banner of "amateur athletes" as defined in the Amateur Sports Act. Proposed amendments would clarify that the Paralympic rights and responsibilities rest with the USOC and enable athletes with disabilities to fully participate in the Olympic sports structure.

At an April 21 Senate hearing on the Amateur Sports Act, Bauer spoke on behalf of the disabled sports organizations recognized by the USOC. His requests for increased voting power in the USOC and greater support from the committee for the Paralympic movement did not meet with universal acceptance. Senator **Ted Stevens** said that he was interested in seeing disabled athletes receive recognition, but that the USOC should not be required to share both money and access to its management, according to an April 22 article by **Mike Spence** in **The Colorado Springs Gazette**.

Colorado Senator **Ben Nighthorse Campbell** agreed. He was quoted in the same article: "My concern is it may open up an avenue for many other groups who would like to get in under the umbrella of the Olympic Committee. If you do that for one group, why can't the other groups do it, too, whether they're ethnic groups, age groups, gay groups, whatever?"*

Bauer counters that athletes with physical disabilities are precluded on the basis of their disability from equitably competing for selection to the U.S. Olympic team, either by the rules of competition or by the nature of their disability, while members of other groups are not. Bauer also says that the International Olympic Committee formally recognizes the Paralympic Games as the equivalent competition for athletes with physical disabilities.

"The 1996 Paralympic Games demonstrated that the Paralympics really has arrived at a level of competitive excellence that makes it now appropriate to be more fully embraced in the Olympic movement," said **Andrew Fleming**, president of the Atlanta Paralympic Organizing Committee and the U.S. Disabled Athletes Fund. "That's the essential thing that we are trying to accomplish."

Disabled-sports organizations in America are encouraging athletes, affiliated organization, and other interested parties to support their efforts by writing letters to Senator **Ted Stevens** and their own members of Congress, and by getting their affiliates and allies involved. The U.S. Disabled Sports Team maintains that it is vitally important for Congress to receive these letters in a demonstration of national consensus behind the disability-sport amendments.

"We want to do everything we can to strengthen the disability-sport movement," said Prince. "The success of the 1996 Paralympics, carried on Kaleidoscope, shows the growing market appeal of disability sport. We think it is important that the Amateur Sports Act reflect that growth, and we are pleased to do our part. We encourage anyone who is interested in disability sport to join this worthy effort by writing their Congressmen and Senator Stevens."

He receives mail at this address: Honorable Ted Stevens, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

*The IOC approved the name "Special Olympics," but refused to allow Dr. **Tom Waddell** and other gay athletes to launch the "Gay Olympics," claiming that they had exclusive title to the "Olympic" name. So the name "Gay Games" was adopted instead.

ZOOM!

A team of 4-wheel, off-road racers recently competed with some of the best mountain bikers in the country as part of the first-ever off-road wheelchair series.

The Hartford is sponsoring the National Off-Road Wheelchair Series, consisting of training clinics and races at seven premier resorts from California to Vermont. The series made its Northeast debut this at Mount Snow, Vermont. A highlight of the event was dual slalom (June 19), and downhill races (June 20) with and against able-bodied mountain bikers in National Off-Road Bicycle Association (NORBA)-sanctioned races during the Grundig/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup event.

Sarah Will, a member of The Hartford's Team Ability and one ot the first women competing in the sport, was coaching at the clinics and racing in dual slalom and downhill competitions. John Davis, injured in a skiing accident this winter, made his off-road wheelchair-racing comeback at the event. He invented the sport of off-road wheelchair racing.

Will and Davis are members ot the United States Disabled Ski Team.

The event offered people with disabilities the opportunity to learn off-road wheelchair racing from the sport's top athletes in state-ot-the-art equipment. The training camps were free of charge to participants with disabilities, and include guided riding adventures on the trails of the resort.

The series was part of The Hartford's Break Away, an innovative program that focuses on the abilities ot people with disabilities.

STEP UP TO HOME PLATE

If you'd like to see Rochester, New York's new baseball stadium, Frontier Field, without the hustle and bustle of a sporting event, or show off the newest community asset to out-of-town guests, you can stop by for a tour.

On Mondays through Saturdays until fall, guided tours of the stadium will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on non-game days and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on game days. Tours leave from the Main Gate every hour on the hour, and last 45 minutes. Tickets ($2-$4; free to children under 5) can be purchased from the tour guides 15 minutes before each tour begins. Reservations aren't necessary, and although a large area is covered, tours will accommodate those with mobility problems. Special rates are available for group tours, although these must be scheduled in advance. At least 24 hours notice is required. Call ☎(716) 262-2009 (Voice) for reservations.

CREATIVE SPARKS

Very Special Arts has chosen six international artists from Argentina, Colombia, France, India, Mexico, Taiwan, and six United States artists to participate as fellows in this year's Yamagata Visual Arts Institute. It's being held place at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington. D.C. August 10-15.

The institute is named for Hiro Yamagata, its founder and a long-time supporter of VSA. It's an intensive week-long program to advance the artists' technical expertise in adaptive techniques for people with disabilities. During the week, the fellows learn from each other through presentations and studio sessions.

After the fellows return from Washington, each will collaborate with their country or state VSA affiliate conducting workshops, teaching classes, and acting as mentors so that others may benefit from their experiences at the institute.

This year's fellows represent a variety of visual-arts fields including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, and jewelry. All the fellows have achieved tremendous success in their respective countries or states and have exhibited in national and/or international venues. To be chosen as a fellow, the artists' work was juried by a panel of professionals in the visual arts.

To honor the twelve professional artists with disabilities who were chosen as the 1997 Yamagata Fellows, the Very Special Arts Gallery is presenting "Freedom of Expression," the 1997 Yamagata International Visual Arts Institute Exhibit, August 11 through August 29. It showcase a variety of artwork in an array of mediums, opening with a reception on Monday, August 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery, located at 1300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; ☎(202) 628-0800 (Voice).

This year's Yamagata Fellows are Roberto Ordenes from Buenos Aires, Argentina; Sergio Giraldo from Medellin, Colombia; Jean-Michel Terencio-Arrouet from Paris, France; Radnika Chand from New Delhi, India; Celestino Fragoso Diaz from Mexico City, Mexico; Hsein Kun-shan from Taipei, Taiwan; Kathleen Flannigan from Berkeley, California; Shannon Fausey from Boise, Idaho; Zel Brook from Corvallis, Oregon; Carla Gourdin from Salt Lake City, Utah; Genney Zbach from Fairmount, West Virginia; and Robert Buono from Land O' Lakes, Wisconsin.

Background: The Corcoran Museum of Art, founded in 1869, is the largest privately-supported art museum in the nation's capital. The Corcoran School of Art, an integral part of the museum, is the only professional school of art and design in Washington that offers degrees in fine arts, design, and photography and a comprehensive continuing-education program in studio art.

A BOOK TO TREASURE

Among the most celebrated of all Persian illustrated texts and a great treasure of the Freer collection, the *Haft awrang* ("Seven thrones") manuscript went on view June 28 and continues through March 29, 1998, at the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery of Art.

This presentation, together with the Mughal Indian manuscripts on view at the neighboring Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in "King of the World: A Mughal Manuscript from the Royal Library, Windsor Castle" (through October 13) and "The Jewel and the Rose: Art for Shah-Jahan" (through January 25, 1998), offers visitors an opportunity to see three of the finest illustrated Persian-language manuscripts from Iran and India.

"The *Haft awrang* manuscript's superb calligraphy, 28 exquisite painted illustrations, and lavish illumination represent the culmination of a particularly creative moment in the history of Persian manuscript production," says Massumeh Farhad, associate curator of Islamic Near Eastern art at the Freer and Sackler galleries and organizer of the exhibition.

The Freer's *Haft awrang*, a collection of poetry completed between 1556 and 1565 for Prince Sultan Ibrahim Mirza (1540-1577), was recently unbound for conservation, allowing the temporary removal of pages for restoration and comprehensive study. The seven poems (the thrones), written as a sequence of rhyming couplets, were composed by Abdul-Rahman Jami (died 1492), a renowned 15th-century poet, scholar and mystic. The text relies on both spiritual and didactic ideas of Sufism—the mystical branch of Islam. This exhibition marks the first time that many of the illustrations and illuminated folios have been shown publicly.

The manuscript—often referred to as the *Freer Jami*—reveals an unparalleled wealth of documentary information vital to the understanding and appreciation of the patronage and production of Persian manuscripts in the 16th century. The creation of this volume, a highly complex, collaborative enterprise, involved as many as five calligraphers, probably four painters, and several illuminators. The artists worked on

various aspects of the manuscript in three different cities over a period of nine years. Representing more than mere pictorial interpretations of the text, the 28 illustrations are notable for their vivid palettes, intricate compositions, and emotional intensity.

A painting from the first poem of the "Seven thrones" accompanies a cautionary tale against the dangers of flattery. In "The Simple Peasant Entreats the Salesman Not to Sell His Wonderful Donkey," a villager is shown taking his old, ailing beast to be sold at the bazaar. In an effort to promote the animal, a salesman extols its strength and youthful vigor. Seeing the suffering donkey, the people laugh, except for the donkey's owner, who believes the salesman's exaggerations and decides to keep his donkey.

The second poem, "Yusuf and Zulaykha," is based on the biblical story of Joseph the Patriarch. The Judeo-Christian prophet also plays an important role in the Koran, the holy text of Islam. The Freer Jami includes six illustrations of the Yusuf and Zulaykha story that rank among the finest in the manuscript.* The most sumptuous composition, titled "Yusuf Celebrates His Marriage," is meticulously executed and stands out for its bold use of color and design, especially in the sail-like canopies, as well as the sensitive portrayal of the figures. The suggestion that this illustration may have been inspired by Mirza's own wedding feast is strengthened by an architectural inscription above Yusuf's head that bears the prince's name.

Sultan Ibrahim Mirza's "Haft Awrang": A Princely Manuscript from Sixteenth-Century Iran, a color-illustrated, 432-page hardcover monograph and a 72-page soft-cover volume featuring all 28 paintings will be published in the fall by Yale University Press, London. Both are written by Marianna Shreve Simpson, with contributions by Farhad.

Info: The Freer Gallery of Art (Jefferson Drive at 12th Street S.W.) and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery (1050 Independence Avenue S.W.) are the national museums of Asian art for the United States. Both museums are near the Smithsonian Metrorail stop. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, with late hours until 8 p.m. on summer Thursdays. Admission is free and free tours are offered daily. For more information, call ☎(202) 786-2374 (TTY) or ☎(202) 357-2700 (Voice). Homepage: ✱http://www. sit edu/asia

*I.e., a variation of the story of Joseph and Potiphar's wife. In Talmud commentaries, Potiphar's wife is given a name—Zulaykha. Asenath, whom Joseph marries, is her adopted daughter—actually his niece, the daughter of his ill-fated sister Dina, miraculously transported to Egypt by an angel. Although raised as an Egyptian, she's actually his kinswoman.—Editors

WHAT'S DOING IN LOS ANGELES

➳ **A multi-dimensional feast:** The 1997 Los Angeles Juried Exhibition, a multi-site biennial exhibition of Southern California artists, opened July 16 at four arts centers of the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, and runs through August 31. It presents works selected in a two-stage process from more than 3,000 slides and videos submitted by an estimated 1,500 artists. A juror assigned to each arts center selected works for only that venue. The exhibition categories encompassed painting, sculpture, works on paper, mixed media/assemblage, performance, and video. Two of the sites are in Barnsdall Art Park, 4800 Hollywood Boulevard. The Barnsdall Arts Center is exhibiting 2- and 3-dimensional works with a size limitation of 16 inches and smaller in any dimension. The juror was internationally-recognized artist John W. Outterbridge. The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery is displaying 2- and 3-dimensional works, including installation, performance, and video. The juror was Cornelia Butler, assistant curator, Museum of Contemporary Art. The third site is the Watts Towers Arts Center, 1727 East 107th Street, which is exhibiting 2-dimensional works only. The juror was Alma Ruiz, exhibitions coordinator, Museum of Contemporary Art. The last venue, the William Grant Still Arts Center at 2520 South West View Street, is showing 2- and 3-dimensional works. The juror was Rick Moss, curator of history, California African American Museum.

For further information, call the Barnsdall Arts Center, ☎(213) 485-2116; Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, ☎(213) 485-4581; Watts Towers Arts Center, ☎(213) 847-4646, and William Grant Still Arts Center, ☎(213) 734-1164.

➳ ***Sunday Open Sunday* launches a new season:** The Sunday Open Sunday series of free family-art workshops opened the 1997-98 season on July 27 at the Watts Towers Arts Center, 1727 East 107th Street, Los Angeles. Ten summer sessions are being held at different sites across Los Angeles; 42 workshops will be held at 14 citywide locations through April 1998. This season's theme is "Recycled and Environmental Art with Love." The sessions are designed for the entire family, from children and teenagers to adults. Registration is not required; participants may simply drop by any workshop.

In "Healing Dolls" (July 27), artist/doll maker Riua Akinshegun, known for her juju (West African) dolls, guided students to listen to their inner voice and to learn to wrap dolls.

"Gum Wrapper Jewelry" (July 27) with artist Deedee Bransky at the William Mead Homes, 1300 North Cardinal Street (two blocks east of North Main Street), Los Angeles. In a revival of the 1950s fad of gum wrapper chains, the workshop showed families how to make innovative jewelry from ordinary gum wrappers.

"Kids for Peace" (August 3) with artist Gayle Gale at the

Junior Arts Center, Barnsdall Art Park. Participants contributed to a mural project by painting a one-foot-square tile on the theme of stopping violence and yearning for peace. More than 200 assembled tiles are being exhibited at the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre on August 10. The mural will continue to grow as it travels to a permanent home in Israel.

"Creatures of Peace" (August 3) with artist David Orozco at the Ramona Gardens Community Service Center, 2830 Lancaster Avenue, East Los Angeles. Students turned discarded war toys into mythical creatures to honor the anniversary of Hiroshima. This workshop was taught in Spanish and English.

BITS & PIECES

☞ **Beam in the spotlight:** On Tuesday evening, July 8, **Fred Michael Beam** performed "A Black Deaf Man: Who Am I?" at the Olive and Bertram Swindells Auditorium, GUKCC. Voice interpretation was provided. His performance was the fourth in this summer's Deaf Entertainment and Arts Festival series.

Beam, a native Floridian and instructor at MSSD, first became interested in dance and theater while he was a student at NTID. After graduating, he attended Tampa Technical Institute; he was valedictorian of his class. In 1987, he moved to Washington, D.C. and became a member of the National Deaf Dance Theatre. He is now its director. He is also a director of the Wild Zappers and has been seen on stage and screen nationally and internationally. He continues to influence many of the young artists at MSSD through his love for dance, theater, and the arts.

His GUKCC performance was the fourth in this summer's Deaf Entertainment and Arts Festival series. (➢/Audrey L. Wineglass)

☞ **Get the olives and ice cubes ready—here comes the mob!** Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center held a Friday-afternoon Happy Hour from June 20 through August 8. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres were served, and a cash bar was open from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. "Come and meet the staff and students of Summer Sessions 1997, and celebrate Deaf Art!" This promotion, which drew huge crowds, was sponsored by the Office of Summer Programs in the College for Continuing Education and Aramark.

(➢/Aaron L. Cucci)

☞ **Going solo:** A solo exhibition of the paintings of **Claire Bergman** was held at Borders Books and Music, Gaithersburg, Maryland, during July. Bergman, who attended such select art academies as Art Students League in Manhattan and Pratt Institute in Baltimore, had her previous one-woman shows in New York and at Gallaudet University. More recently, her work was exhibited at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria. Three years ago, after an interval of 20 years devoted to raising her children, she started to paint again, refining her talent and developing it in new directions. (➢/Eugene Bergman)

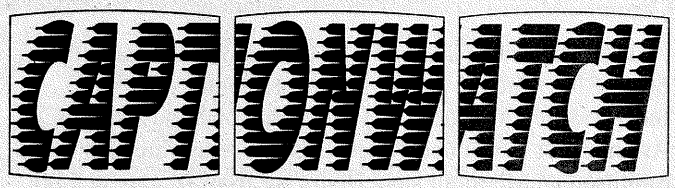
☞ **Training for the toughest job in the world (update):** The Parenting Advisory Council (PAC) is facilitating Parenting Classes for Deaf parents with hearing children, September 14 to October 19. The class is led by **Jennifer Witteborg**, a Deaf mother of five hearing children. Funds are being raised for parents who can't afford the registration fee. For more information, contact the PAC at P.O. Box 135, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-0135, ☎(703) 385-2083 (TTY/Voice), or ❖ParentAdvC@aol.com (E-mail).

☞ **Run that by us again???** A note from Carol Finkle of Creative Access: "***Speed II*** is not captioned, period! *YUCCCCCHHHHHH!!!!* To make it more sickening . . . I heard there is a deaf character and lots of sign language in the movie. (Anybody know if it is a 'Deaf'actor?)"

Our comment: It had better not be another Abbott-Marshall production!

☞ **Dog dreams: Carla Stiverson** has written **Assistance Dog Providers in the United States**, the only resource book on the industry. It includes listings for 56 hearing-dog providers, and lots of other useful information. Many deaf and hard-of-hearing persons are currently considering getting a hearing dog but don't know where to go or how to do it. This book can help make it easier. Check this Website: ✷http://www.dogmart.com/ncservicedogs/, or contact Carla Stiverson at ❖servdog@netusa1.net. (➤)

➢ = Taken or adapted from TFA.
➤ = Taken or adapted from NJ-L.



MANDATORY CAPTIONING OF COMMERCIALS: STAY TUNED?

In recent months, the Federal Communications Commission has made all types of advertising—cigarettes and other tobacco products, alcoholic drinks, and anything within the "public interest"—one of its chief concerns. So . . . what about closed-captioned TV commercials?

According to a June 23 article by **Nora FitzGerald** in **Adweek**, a popular trade publication for the advertising industry, the FCC was close to adopting a rule that could require national TV advertisers to use closed-captioning on all their commercials.

An FCC representative confirmed that such a proposal would be voted on by August 8. The FCC would be deciding

whether to require closed-captioning in program content, and then whether to include TV commercials in that requirement.

FitzGerald noted: "With all the sound and fury surrounding the alcohol ad inquiry, the imminent closed captioning rule has been all but ignored. A separate firestorm could be the result, particularly if local advertisers with smaller budgets are forced to comply." Advocates for deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens (of which there are an estimated 24 million in the States) want to see closed-captioning on *all* commercials.

"This should continue to be a voluntary effort by the industry," said **Hal Shoup**, executive vice president of the American Association of Advertising Agencies (4A's). "Mandated closed-captioning could be a real hardship, especially on local advertisers," he said. But one lobbyist added, "Who could be against closed-captioning?"

John Kamp, Senior Vice President of the 4A's, said that they would like to see every national commercial captioned. But most lobbyists don't want to see advertisers forced into it through regulation. If the FCC mandates closed-captioning, it will likely be limited to national advertising. Local commercials will probably be exempt, and captioning will be strictly voluntary.

(➤/adapted from the article carried on NJ-L News)

READ THE METS!

On May 16, the New York Mets announced that the General Motors Corporation would be the exclusive sponsor of closed-captioning and SNET Americast would provide underwriting of the 1997 Mets baseball broadcasts on WWOR-TV. All 52 of WWOR's scheduled Mets games are being real-time-captioned for the benefit of deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers. The real-time closed-captioning service is being provided by the National Captioning Institute (NCI).

"All of us at the Mets welcome General Motors as a new sponsor and SNET Americast as the underwriter of closed-captioning for Mets games," said Mark Bingham, Mets Senior Vice President of Marketing and Broadcasting. "We commend both organizations and WWOR for making these broadcasts accessible to the many hearing-impaired people in the New York metropolitan area."

"This will be the third year for the Mets games to be closed-captioned on WWOR", said **Robert Qudeen**, General Manager of WWOR. "We are delighted to continue our support for captioned television."

How it's done: As each game is broadcast, a real-time captioner employed by NCI listens to the announcers and strokes the words phonetically into an electronic steno machine. A computer converts the phonetic shorthand into captions. The captions are then sent back to the television station over telephone lines and automatically added to the video-broadcast signal within two to three seconds after being spoken.

Any 13-inch or larger television purchased after 1993 has built-in captioning-display capabilities. Anyone with one of these televisions can view the captions by turning on the caption-display mode. The owner's manual should be consulted to determine if the TV can display captions and for instructions on how to use them.

HOME-VIDEO UPDATE

✏***Anthony Napoli*** *resigned as chair of the NAD Home Video Access Committee on November 18, 1996, because he was "uncomfortable with the NAD chain of commands and mandates." He had chaired the committee since 1994. Here's an adaptation of his report:*

During my 2-year term, I tried to find alternative solutions to get increased captioning on entertainment home videos for the time being, pending legislation for 100% universal closed-captioning. Constantly pushing for legislation for 100% captioning of home videos resulted in repeated frustration, as each attempt was rejected by the legislatures. Since all attempts to pass laws requiring 100% universal captioning have been unsuccessful, instead of making this the only focus, I believe that there are other options to successfully increase captioning. But I was unable to explore these options at NAD.

I wanted to try these other options while legislation for 100% universal captioning was in motion. After countless meetings at trade conventions with Hollywood home-video studio executives and Motion Pictures Association of America (MPAA), I concluded that they are willing to work with us only if we make efforts to discuss solutions to reduce the costs of captioning. This particularly applies to the smaller and independent studios. We all know that the big studios with million-dollar-revenues have the ability to caption all of their releases. What I am suggesting is a ratings system. This system will allow lower-rated movies to be captioned at a lower cost. I need to correspond with the captioning vendors to develop some kind of system that will allow smaller and independent studios to caption their home-video product at a reasonable (affordable) cost according, to their yearly revenues.

While serving as the chair of the NADHVAC, I also drafted additional goals and submitted them to the NAD officials for approval. I was never authorized to proceed with these goals. But I'm still eager to pursue them under another organization. These goals are:

➠ Set up committees:

➠ 1. Moderator or committee to monitor all Home Box Office-type networks such as Showtime, Cinemax, Disney Channel, etc., as to what is captioned and not captioned. From there, see that communication remains open between the studios and noncommercial movie networks on the issue of the master tapes containing captions being made available.

➠ 2. Set up an Approval Seal for the captioning vendors to make studios aware of captioning quality. At the same time, have someone monitor captioning quality.

➠ 3. Moderator/committee coordinating letter-writing to studios on complaints and missing captions.

➠ 4. Moderator/committee monitoring uncaptioned titles, using database. Contact the studios and inquire why the video is not captioned. Also pressure them to do 100% too.

➠ 5. Moderator/committee monitoring current and new companies producing videos. Create a packet with updated information about captioning and send copies to all home-video companies. Follow up on them and keep records.

➠ 6. Moderator/committee to monitor all videos that are to be remastered. As the videos are re-mastered, be sure to inquire about adding captions to each one.

➠ When videos are re-mastered because one studio is purchased by another studio or the copyright has been transferred to another studio, be sure that the previously captioned videos continue to be captioned.

➠ Attend VSDA conventions.

➠ Work more closely with MPAA, VSDA, and Blockbuster Entertainment.

➠ Do follow-ups with the studios I had meetings with during previous VSDA conventions.

I've been known as a captioning advocate since I was 15. Since then, I have urged home-video executives to do more captioning on their product. To this end, I have had some success and have gained valuable knowledge and networking experience in Hollywood. I also have established excellent relationships with a number of captioning vendors. Additionally, several studio executives, including Blockbuster Entertainment (Blockbuster Video Headquarters), are familiar with my efforts and willing to work with me.

Because I am no longer with an organization nor currently sponsored by anyone, it is not economically feasible for me to reach the goals I have set to make captioning more accessible. I am looking for an organization that I can represent. If any organization is interested in having me chair a Home Video Access Committee, I will be happy to do so.

Contact: Anthony Napoli, Advocate, Access to Home Video Captioning, 11 Sandhurst Drive, Rochester, NY 14617; ❖ASN2193@ritvax.isc.edu (E-mail).

VSDA UPDATE

Last July, on behalf of the NAD, I attended the Video Software Dealers Association's annual convention in Los Angeles. It was my fifth consecutive year. (I went as an independent advocate the first three times and represented NAD the last two times.) VSDA is a home-entertainment convention for retailers. Every major home-video studio, independent video supplier, distributor, accessory, and video-service company, as well as many new exhibitors, are there to make purchasing decisions on products. I had the opportunity to meet with studio executives regarding their progress in improving their companies' captioning policies.

Hollywood extravaganzas: Every attendee was overwhelmed by the VSDA's very first nightly extravaganza, hosted by Hollywood's top home-video studios. The event hosted by Disney took place in a huge park with an exact replica of ***Aladdin***, complete with characters and food booths from several restaurants. The next event, hosted by Paramount Home Video, was a tour of the Paramount Pictures lot where guests enjoyed a moment of stardom and were entertained by deejays and a buffet with an incredible variety of rich desserts. MCA/Universal Home Video treated all the convention participants to a spectacular "doorway"—a private admission to the Universal Studios Theme Park. Columbia/Tristar Pictures Home Video ended the convention with a wild party at their lot at Sony Pictures, which topped all other events—a lavish banquet, expensive game prizes, casinos, and dancing.

Meeting the execs: While there, I had numerous meetings with executives from various studios to discuss captioning issues. Results were mixed. I was very surprised at the executives' lack of knowledge about captioning. The information they had dated back 10 years ago, when captioning was an exorbitant expense. Many executives were relieved when I gave them up-to-date information and current prices. Realizing that captioning costs have been forced down because of greater competition, the studios are "upping" their efforts to increase the use of captions. However, it's still an unfortunate fact of life that the well-off studios choose to only caption major hits, even though their budgets permit them to caption more, or all, of their product. This is something that needs to be worked on.

Sliding scale: Inadequate budgets for some independent studios is a major factor in lack of captioning, as the costs may be prohibitive. Let's say an independent company wants to sell their titles for $6.95 each and they sell only about 2,000 or fewer units. How, they ask, can they break even and turn a profit? Every year since I began attended the VSDA convention, I've received a number of inquiries requesting some kind of "sliding scale" pricing chart. One suggestion I've gotten is that the companies should pay for captioning based on the price of the video and revenue behind it. This is something I am studying, and will be contacting captioning vendors to develop some kind of price chart for the smaller studios to avoid undue burden. Any captioning vendor is welcome to contact me about this.

Turnaround time: Other reasons for studios not captioning their videos were thoroughly discussed. Although budget constraints were not an issue to some of the studios, they complained about waiting one week or longer to have their master videos captioned by a captioning agency. However, I clearly stated that captioning vendors can make the turnaround time much quicker. The studio executives were pleased to understand this and promised to find remedies.

Remastering—grabbing the opportunity: One last important thing I brought to their attention was the re-mastering process. Most studios frequently need to re-edit or remaster uncaptioned videos for a number of reasons—e.g., videos going out of stock, or promotional offers. I recommended that they add captioning when they reformat their videos and that they could use their revenues from that specific title to add it to the captioned-video lineup. There is

no valid reason for them not to do so. The problem here is that the studio executives frequently switch companies and shuffle employees around, and the person actually in charge of producing unmastered videos is in a sticky position as far as the captioning procedure goes. The executives suggested a resolution to this problem by offering to add stipulation to their policy guidelines.

We still face a problem, however. When a studio shuts down or transfers rights to a video that had captions, frequently the master tape containing the captions is not delivered directly to the new copyright holder. Thus, newly-marketed copies of the video don't have captions, even though the captions are *already* in the master. We discussed this unfortunate situation, and hopefully, the studios will pay more attention to this matter.

Captioning 101: It is also unfortunate that certain studios are not knowledgeable about the wonderful technology of closed-captioning a video. Their lack of basic knowledge about captioning is one of the contributing factors to a lack of captioning on videos. There are hundreds of studios, distributors, and independent companies that produce videos. It is difficult to keep track of who is "captioning-aware" and who is not. Along with MPAA and VSDA, I am hoping to find better ways to educate those who are not familiar with captioning.

Optimistic outlook: Although there are many tasks that need to be accomplished, I hope that my continued work with MPAA and VSDA and other video studios, and towards the goals listed above, will help make captioning more accessible. I would like to form a new organization or represent an existing group to work towards achieving 100% captioning. I left the convention with optimism. The studios' attitudes are positive; my outlook is bright. I will continue to work with them.

COGAN'S DISEASE NETWORK

Cogan's Syndrome affects hearing people, causing them to become deaf. They rapidly lose their hearing, encounter eye inflammation, suffer from tinnitus, vertigo, and in some cases I.B.D.

We as a group number approximately 30 out of 150 worldwide. If you or someone you know has Cogan's, please write:

Cogan's Contact
P.O. Box 713
Garfield, NJ 07026
E-mail: USCOGANS@AOL.COM

DIRECTOR

North Carolina Division of Services
for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH)

Salary Range: $50,143 - $69,543

Will provide agency-wide oversight, planning, and direction to the services and activities of DSDHH. The Division operates 3 residential/day schools for the deaf and a network of 6 regional resource centers that serve the deaf and hard-of-hearing population.

Requires Master's degree in Deaf Education, School Administration, Public Administration, or closely related field; 4 years experience in program services to the deaf and hard-of-hearing, of which 3 years were in a supervisory, managerial. Or consultative capacity. An equivalent combination of education and experience will also be considered. Prefer expressive and receptive sign-language skills, and a working knowledge of deaf culture.

Interested persons should send a State of North Carolina application (Internet website, www.osp.nc.us/OSP/applctn.htm) and/or send résumé to:

N.C. Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Attention: Personnel Department
319 Chapanoke Road, Suite 108
Raleigh, NC 27603
☎(919)773-2979 TTY/Voice

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Where's the ADA when you have to make a phone call?

(Some thoughts on the ADA's 7th anniversary)

To all ADA supporters across the nation:

Since the Americans with Disabilities Act became law in 1990, there has been a growing demand for equal rights for all people who need access to public facilities. My question is: how well have the facilities kept up with this demand? How have they responded?

Specifically, I'm concerned about public TTY payphones. This issue has bothered me for several months. I have mentioned it to local advocacy groups, and was told they'd check into it.

My wife, Bonnie, and I live in Columbus, Ohio, where we have seen the changes coming as a result of the ADA, ever so slowly. We have traveled to several places quite a few times, and what we have noticed sometimes disgusted us and sometimes pleased us. We appreciate all real efforts to make public facilities accessible to deaf people. But there is still a need for improvement.

For example: during our stop and layover in Chicago's O'Hare Airport, coming back from a one-month European trip, we found that there was only *one* TTY phone booth in the middle of the newly enlarged airport. Eh? In the *middle* of the airport? Come on, people! We had to walk all the way from one end of this huge airport to call our parents to let them know we had arrived safely, only to be blocked by a hearie misusing the TTY payphone—using it for a *voice*, not a TTY, call! Gee, what a gyp!

Another example: Bonnie and I do our food shopping at Krogers, a large supermarket chain. We have noticed an increased effort to make Krogers more accessible for customers with physical handicaps—wider doors to accommodate wheelchairs, an electric-eye door-opener, enlarged toilet stalls and handles for wheelchair users, special devices to connect shopping carts with wheelchairs, and a "Handicapped" parking-lot area. I've wondered how they could afford all that access—but NOT ONE LOUSY STINKING TTY payphone booth has ever been installed! Making Krogers accessible for wheelchair users cost a bundle of money, but they can't even install *one* TTY phone booth! Gee, what a gyp!

I work for the Federal Government. I'm not in a position to give specifics. But I've seen a general improvement in making the facilities more accessible. Once again: doors have been widened and extra-wide bathroom stalls have been set up for wheelchair users, and plenty of parking spaces for those with mobility impairments—but again, not one TTY phone booth can be found. I have even asked about it. The reply was: "I don't know!"

Columbus International Airport has changed a lot since 1983. On December 24, 1996, I dropped a friend off there, and was pleased to see plenty of TTY payphone booths there. The "TTY" logo is proudly displayed everywhere. You can't possibly miss them. But there's one thing that bothers me: when I looked at the airport map, there was not one sign to tell me *where* the TTY payphone booths were located. The directory lists TTYs, but the map doesn't. Again, what a gyp!

The Columbus Convention Center does have a TTY payphone. I had the opportunity to make some necessary phone calls there without difficulty. Likewise, the Hyatt Regency in Columbus has equal access for deafies. There are just enough TTY payphones. Seems to me that Columbus' major public buildings do have good TTY accessibility. Several shopping centers, though, don't have any TTY payphones. None at all. The Capitol Building has undergone a complete renova-

tion and a heavy-duty facelift, and will have its grand reopening very soon. I am anxious to see how much access it will have for wheelchair users—and deafies who need TTY payphones too. And how about emergency-warning strobe-lights and people who work at the Capitol who know some sign language and are able to assist sign-language users if asked?

I thought of asking you able-bodied people to go out and check your local area, and see what access is available for those with mobility impairments, but are there any TTY payphones around? How many parking spaces for wheelchair users do you see? Five? Ten? Twenty? Try to figure out how many TTY payphone booths should be in the building. If you don't find any, you can safely say, "Hey, what a gyp!"

So ask yourself if there is access for others but not for deafies. Go forth and ask the people who operate these facilities (managers, owners, etc.), "How come you have plenty of 'Handicapped' parking spaces, wide toilet stalls, lowered sinks and drinking fountains, large water-faucet handles, and tilted mirrors, all for wheelchair users, but not one TTY payphone booth anywhere?" If they say there is one, then find it—but I can bet you it will be hidden away in a difficult-to-find place—not in plain view where a deafie can find it fast!

Let's start kicking some butt and get what we need for equal access!

Steven R. Sandy
Columbus, Ohio

✏The version published here is a free adaptation of the E-mail sent to **DEAF LIFE** and several other publications. It has been edited for clarity.

Steve Sandy is a contributor to **DeafNation**. He's best known for his advocacy on behalf of "Dummy" Hoy. His reports on the progress of the Committee for "Dummy" Hoy in getting Hoy inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame have appeared in **DEAF LIFE Plus**.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Society's Assets, Inc. Is seeking a qualified individual to work as a full-time Customer Service Representative at the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System in Madison, Wisconsin. WTRS is open 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week, and is located on Madison's West Side.

Job Summary

While serving as the principal point of contact for TRS customers, representatives are responsible for addressing customer concerns over the Customer Service phone line, Statewide networking, marketing, and resource development involving travel, public presentations, and home visits.

Requirements

- Three or more years exposure to Deaf culture and the communication needs of people who are Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and/or speech-impaired
- Ability to communicate effectively on the phone, in person, and in writing
- Experience in providing presentations
- Experience in handling multiple tasks
- Flexibility in schedule and willingness to travel
- Strong team player
- Computer skills: basic data entry and knowledge of word-processing programs
- High School diploma: Bachelor's degree preferred
- Preference for studies in Communications or Social Sciences
- Fluency in American Sign Language

Salary

Contingent upon experience—range: $23,250 - $33,500 annually

Excellent benefits package

Submit cover letter and résumé to:
WTRS Human Resources Manager
575 D'onofrio Drive, Suite 200
Madison, WI 53719
FAX: (608) 833-3208

Application Deadline: August 25, 1997

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer
Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

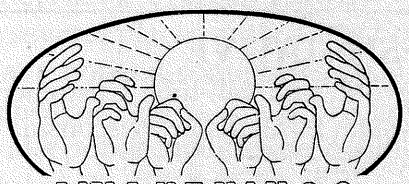
CLASSIFIED

Mill Neck Services Job Development Program

Are you Deaf or Hard of Hearing? Are you looking for work? Mill Neck Service's Job Development Program can help you obtain employment. Please contact our agency at ☎(516) 922-3334 (TTY) or ☎(516) 922-3818 (Voice).

Sign Language Interpreters

Need a Sign Language Interpreter for special events? Contact Mill Neck Services Interpreter Referral at ☎(516) 922-3334 (TTY) or ☎(516) 922-3818 (Voice).



WANTED: PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Awakenings, a substance abuse treatment program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons in Southern California, has an opening for Program Director. The successful candidate will be Deaf or hard-of-hearing, with management experience and knowledge, either personal or professional, of substance abuse treatment. For more information, call ☎(562) 923-0969 (TTY) or ☎(562) 869-6385 (Voice). Send résumés to Southern California Alcohol & Drug Programs, Inc., 11500 Paramount Boulevard, Downey, CA 90241. THANKS!

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR (VRC) Entry & Objective JOB ANNOUNCEMENT CODES: Entry — 60827 & Objective — 60828 SELECTED AREAS

Department of Workforce Development (DWD); Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) **AND** Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS); Division of Supportive Living are recruiting qualified persons to fill Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) vacancies throughout the State of Wisconsin:

VRC Deaf & Hard of Hearing — in Milwaukee and Oshkosh areas

Special Qualification: Fluency in American Sign Language

VRC Bilingual (English/Spanish) — in Milwaukee and Madison areas

Special Qualification: Fluency in Spanish

VRC Instructor for the Blind (RT)

VRC General — Statewide

JOB DUTIES: Counsel persons with disabilities and their families to identify and resolve problems; plan individualized vocational-rehabilitation programs and provide support and direction during the rehabilitation process; arrange for medical and psychological evaluation and vocational testing and/or work evaluation; place clients in jobs, attend meetings, seminars and training sessions.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED FOR POSITIONS: Physical and mental impairments and their effects on vocational rehabilitation; counseling and placement of persons with vocational/occupational handicapping conditions, Federal, State and community programs providing services to persons with disabilities.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: VRC-Objective Level: Possess a Wisconsin Professional Counselor Certificate per s. 457, Wis. Stats. VRC-Entry Level: Ability to obtain a Professional Counselor Training Certificate per s. 457, Wis. Stats.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS POSITION, CONTACT: Barbara Bronte; DWD; Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; 2719 International Lane; P.O. Box 7852; Madison, WI 53707-7852 OR call Barb Bronte at (608) 243-5617 (TTY) or (608) 243-5616 (Voice).